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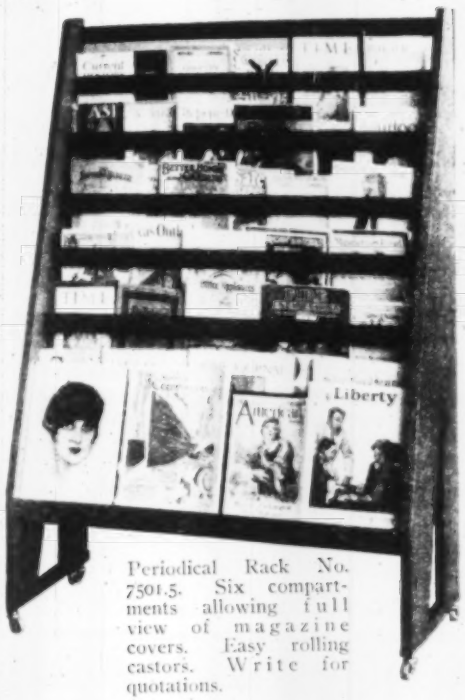

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FREUNDSCHAFT UND SEXUALITÄET.

Von Dr. SIEGFRIED PLACZEK. Nervenarzt in Berlin. Sechste, wenig veränderte Auflage (14.-16. Tausend). Oktav. 188 Seiten. M. 4.—, geb. M. 5.—.

Inhalt: I. Freundschaft, Dichter, Dichtung. II. Freundschaft und Stammbuch. III. Freundschaft in der Gegenwart. IV. Freundschaft und Geschlechtsleben. (a) Männerfreundschaft, (b) Freundschaft Lehrer, Erzieher, (c) Sokrates und Alcibiades, (d) Frauenfreundschaft, (e) Mannweibliche Freundschaft, (f) Freundschaft und Ehe. V. Freundschaft und Wandervogel. VI. Freundschaft, Sexualität und die Freudsche Lehre. VII. Nietzsche und Wagner. VIII. Der Freundschaftsbegriff. IX. Literatur. X. Namenverzeichnis.

ZEITSCHRIFT FUER SEXUALWISSENSCHAFT.

Gegründet von Prof. Dr. A. Eulenburg und Dr. Iwan Bloch. Herausgegeben im Auftage der Internationalen Gesellschaft für Sexualforschung. Redigiert von Dr. MAX MARCUSE. Jahrgang 1927-28. Band XIV. Jährlich erscheinen 12 Hefte im Umfang von 2-3 Bogen. Abonnementspreis vierteljährlich. M. 5.—.

Mit dem neuen Jahrgang erscheint die Zeitschrift in erweitertem Umfange um noch stärker als bisher der Vielseitigkeit ihrer Aufgaben gerecht zu werden und allen Problemen des umfangreichen Gebietes Beachtung schenken zu können.

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BEITRAEGE ZUR FRAUENBIOLOGIE.

(Die jüdischen rituellen Sexualvorschriften.) Von Dr. S. WEISSENBERG in Elisabethgrad (Sinowjewsk), Ukraine. Gross-Oktav. 29 Seiten.
Einzelpreis M. 2. 20, Vorzugspreis M. 1. 65.
(Abhandlungen aus dem Gebiete der Sexualforschung. Band V Heft 2.)

Der Vorzugspreis gilt für Mitglieder der Gesellschaft für Sexualforschung, die Subskribenten eines Bandes der "Abhandlungen" sowie die Abonnenten der "Zeitschrift für Sexualwissenschaft."

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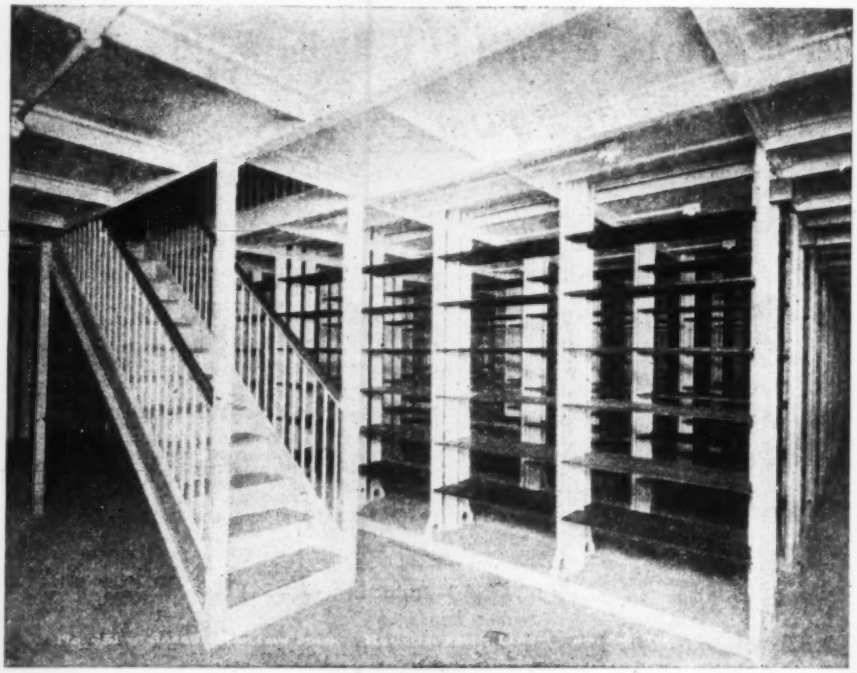

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH SEPTEMBER 1, 1927

The Brussels Institute Again!

An Open Letter to Mr. H. W. Wilson. By Ernest Cushing Richardson, Consultant in Bibliography, Library of Congress.

THE editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL has given me your letter, asking that somebody would write a defense of the International Institute of Bibliography. You say that you would really like to know what good things can be said for its past achievement or its probable service in the future.

You have obviously heard the chorus of criticism of the Institute as a visionary and useless plan; the evidence of your own experience seems to support this to some degree and you feel that all such plans should, in any event, be submitted to the rigid test of practicability before receiving endorsement, since the encouragement of a visionary and useless plan which eventually fails, tends to make harder the path of all useful enterprises in the future; but you would really like to think better of the Institute than you do.

In brief you ask whether the Institute can stand the rigid test, and imply that achievement is the evidence.

No one has a better right to raise this question than yourself; unless it be Mr. Bowker who has passed the request along. Together you represent the best expert American judgment as to practicable bibliographical ideas and you have always shown yourselves sympathetic with the ideas of others. You ask not in the spirit of hostility but as next friend ask a day in court. You offer opportunity for defense.

I could wish that court had found a more able public defender, but I am personally glad of the opportunity to make a frank and unqualified defense of the Institute because my duty has hitherto put me in the position of critic. By instruction of the A. L. A. Council and Executive Board, I have been trying to apply a rigid test of practicability to the Institute. I have listened to all the hearsay criticism and studied critically the *prima facie* evidence with a view to protecting the Association from all premature or unwise commitments. In the effort to make this test first-hand, I have been obliged several times to go direct to the Institute and to make cross questioning as searching as possible. In this direct examination I have not spared any criticism for which evidence developed. This unsparing inquiry and dispassionate report must have sometimes seemed to the directors of the Institute cold comfort and faint praise, even if they did not doubt the will of our committee to carry out in spirit and in letter the instructions of the A. L. A. Council to develop if possible concrete co-operation at an early date.

It is a pleasure therefore to be asked to make a defense in which all qualifications and critical reserves may be put in the background as matters of detail and the constructive elements of the situation, *i.e.*, the plans and achievements of the Institute, brought out without wasting too much breath on matters irrelevant to these essentials.

You use the term defense, and this term is the point. An attack is in process. This attack is directed against both plans and achievement and is gaining in momentum and in unfairness. When things have come to such a pass it is high time that someone should come to the defense, for, when all has been said, no one doubts the good faith of the Institute and its will to be of service, or the unselfish devotion of its directors to the production of the service attempted. They have given unsparingly of their intellectual and executive energy and even of their moderate financial means. They have asked nothing in return save the opportunity for more service. They have therefore earned the right to highest consideration and utmost fairness. Even if these men were criminals, instead of unappreciated philanthropists, they would be entitled to a day in court, and, under our system, the burden of proof would not be on them to show their ideas practical or their achievements sufficient, but on critics to prove the contrary by evidence.

The effort of the Institute is not self-centered. It has surveyed the field of bibliographical service, studied the lines of deepest need and greatest promise and has chosen for concrete effort those matters which seemed most needed, useful and practicable. This judgment

has been confirmed both by expert bibliographers and by expert users and the Institute has demonstrated the practicability of producing a large amount of this much needed service with very moderate funds. There is no other agency organized to do this work. The Institute feels, therefore, and I feel, that the abandonment of the Institute at this time would be a bibliographical tragedy which for unresaon and wantonness, should take a place in history with the destruction of the Alexandrian Library and the International Catalog of Scientific Literature. All this however does not affect the principle of rigid testing. You and I are quite agreed as to this principle. After many interviews with the directors in the effort to apply this test on behalf of the A. L. A., and several illuminating interviews on behalf of the League committee, I am in a position to say that the Institute is quite as positive about this principle as you and I are. Its plea for endorsement is precisely on the ground that it can meet this test. Its grievance is that solemn and vague expressions of "lack of confidence," based on hearsay and mistaken statements, are substituted for this rigid testing by fact.

We are all therefore absolutely in agreement that if plans are visionary or achievements small for the means engaged, the Institute should not stand in the way of better plans, if there are any.

In asking for a defense you assume that an attack is recognized, but you do not cite the charges in detail. Following are some of the criticisms which I have recently heard alleged, stated in a blend of expressions heard.

It is felt (so it is said) that it is hopeless to try to resurrect the Institute under any circumstances, that its plans are utterly visionary and useless, that there is not a chance of its realizing any practical service, that it is a mere bibliographical vagary, a scheme that has no promise of practical service and whose results, even if these should be produced, would be something quite useless. It is alleged that the directors are mere visionaries and that while "great respect and even admiration is felt for their lofty ideals and their personal devotion to them." "a complete lack of confidence" in them exists and no one feels that they can "carry out any practical undertaking."

The indictment in short is: First, that the plans of the Institute are not practical or useful. Second, that the administration of the Institute is ineffective to produce the service proposed. Third, that the achievements are in fact inconsiderable.

If these charges are true we are all agreed that the Institute should no longer cumber the earth, but give way to a better one if such can be found.

As public defender I propose therefore to establish by sufficient evidence the contrary: 1. That the plans of the Institute are well calculated to meet real needs of service and a general demand. 2. That the concrete achievements of the Institute are in themselves considerable and, in proportion to the means engaged, extraordinary. 3. That administration is thereby proved to be highly efficient.

1. *The plans* are sound and aim at useful service for which there is a recognized need and actual demand on the part of the natural users of the service.

As evidence of this I submit the plans themselves, as follows: First, a list of *seven of the plans*, which are obviously useful, needed and asked for, and which have been endorsed as such by the League sub-committee of bibliographical experts, the League Committee of International Intellectual Co-operation and the Council and Assembly of the League of Nations: (1) A union finding list; (2) a systematic catalog of bibliography and intellectual co-operation; (3) a library of bibliographical books; (4) a document file and information service on bibliographical societies, libraries, and "other organs of artistic, scientific and literary information." (5) an index bibliographicus; (6) a bulletin, and (7) an information office to maintain relations with various national offices of scientific information.

I remark as to this list: that the League indorsement is not average or negative evidence, but positive, highly expert and well considered. It includes the testimony of two committees; one highly expert in producing bibliographical aids, the other equally expert in the use of such aids. The bibliographical committee is composed of experts and was assisted by various consulting experts. The testimony of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation is the most competent expert testimony in the world, as to usefulness, need and demand. The committee was chosen as representing the *ne plus ultra* of research ability. It includes Messrs. Bergson, Einstein, Millikan, Gilbert Murray, Mme. Curie, Mlle. Bonnvie and half a dozen others almost equally distinguished. No group in the world is so well able to speak for the learned world in matters of learning and the needs of research.

In carrying out the desire of the League to endorse and use the Institute, a rigid inquiry was made by the bibliographical sub-committee. The reports of this committee were then discussed by the general committee. The unanimous recommendations of this committee were then adopted by the League Council and the Assembly—a quadruple endorsement. The recommendations were then framed into a formal contract between the League and the Institute, a public international undertaking. A more rig-

idly tested or formally expressed endorsement by more competent persons can hardly be imagined.

It is the fact, therefore, that the most competent world experts, both in bibliographical technique and in the use of aids to research, freely express their belief that "the Institute responds to a real and increasing need," and "testify to the great work accomplished by the Institute" (*Proceedings*, 1924, p. 62).

In addition to these seven plans endorsed and adopted by the League, there are various other Institute plans that were omitted or subordinated in the League agreement, but were demanded more or less vigorously by individuals in the League committees and by other considerable bodies of individuals, and whose practicability therefore is a question simply of means and executive ability.

I submit four further plans of this type (8, 9, 10, 11) also one (12) which seems to me curiously overlooked, and of first practical value, also finally the key plan of the Institute as follows: (8) The methodical catalog; (9) the decimal classification; (10) the international library; (11) the documentary encyclopedia; and (12) the bibliographical museum, and finally the international clearing house of bibliographical affairs or the key plan of the Institute. (10) and (11) are simple extensions of (4) and (3) as approved by the League.

(8) *The methodical catalog.* There was a vigorous demand for this by Mlle. Bonnevie in the committee meeting. She urged that "savants had more need for a methodical catalog than an alphabetical." M. Godet accepted this in principle but advised postponement on the program. A later committee of experts gave a similar endorsement and a qualified recommendation for early effort. I add the fact that a recent American research worker from a great business corporation commends the union catalog of the Library of Congress as "an essential piece of apparatus if American research is to take and hold a dominating position," but at the same time he pleads also for "a subject index" for research men and urges that the development of "one central subject catalog, located alongside the Union author list" would produce an immediate demand for the author Union finding list itself, which would "become a universal clamor for a speedy completion."

The demand for the methodical catalog is thus unmistakable enough; its usefulness if completed is obvious.

(9) *The Decimal classification.* This is a French version of the D.C. greatly extended. The D.C. could hardly be used on the continent without such a translation. The demand is proved by the facts that the edition of the colossal book is exhausted and a new one demanded, that the Library of Congress copy of this classification has been worn almost to pieces, and that a Dutch section has been formed to organize the revision and extension of this work. The usefulness is the usefulness of the English D.C. for non-English-speaking people. A whole edition is in actual service. A new edition is announced for publication.

(10) *The International Library.* The idea of a library on international subjects to serve the Association of International Associations, the International University and the Institute is obviously sound. These are going institutions. They need library service. Certainly there is nothing visionary about the idea of a library to serve them.

(11) "The Documentary Encyclopedia," as M. Lafontaine calls it, or "Current Encyclopedia" as you call it, or "Archives of Present Times," as M. Godet calls it. It may be confessed that this is last and least among the plans, but it is worthwhile to discuss it in more detail than the others because it is the one and only feature which you yourself criticize at first hand and on which you offer more than hearsay evidence. You visited the Institute in 1920 and found that it was making a large collection of material of current interest to be used, you say, in the publishing of a current encyclopedia, but it had no plans or prospects of ever publishing such an encyclopedia. The directors were merely preparing to do something that they had no reason to suppose would ever be done. You could learn of no practical purpose that the material would serve.

You cite this as evidence of an utterly visionary plan unfitted for practical service, but you seem to have misunderstood the idea of the encyclopedia which both M. Godet and I understand as simply a vertical file information collection such as is maintained in many of our large libraries (*e.g.* Chicago) and on a small scale by most of us personally. It is filing current documentary material in a simple form for ready use. As a plan of usefulness, it is distinguishable from the old plan of the Wilson Company, when it used to lend packages of live pamphlet material for hire, only in the fact that its method of using is not lending but simple library reference and information service use.

As a matter of fact, this collection was formed to fill a need and in response to a demand from the international associations, especially the Aeronautic and Polar Associations, for a method of filing their collections. The plan would have been visionary if it had looked to publishing the material, but you yourself recognize that this was no part of their plans. The material is itself the encyclopedia. It is as M. Godet describes it "Archives of Present Times," or as they call it, a "Document

Encyclopedia." If this is not a good and practical idea then clipping bureaus are visionary and unpractical, for they are the slightest form of the same idea. The directors did, I think, say that this would be good material for the use of any one who should publish a current or annual encyclopedia and such tests as I made of material go to show that it would in fact be valuable for this purpose, and highly useful if carried further.

(12) *The Bibliographical Museum.* The plan for this contemplates exhibiting, by means of illustrative museum objects, photographs, graphic charts, tables of statistics and in short, all the modern methods of museology, the history of the book, including the progress of bibliography and library science, in short, the production (composition and authorship), multiplication (writing, printing, etc.), distribution (thru book shops) and organization again in libraries, of books. It aims at perhaps an overpopular, but vivid graphic presentation which might profitably be imitated in every library school since it conveys the whole idea in a more vivid and briefer way than can possibly be done by oral or written presentation. The value of the plan is obvious and I have pleasure in testifying that I found even the rather meager total of results obtained highly useful.

Finally, speaking of plans, Hamlet must not be left out. The main idea of the Institute, of which all other plans are simply parts, is of a central international clearing house of bibliographical ideas and of operations which call for international standardizing. This involves some sort of secretariat and information service, such as is implied in numbers 4 and 7 of the plans adopted by the League, but it contemplates chiefly action thru international conferences of librarians, bibliographers, authors, etc. It contemplates a definite intellectual cooperation in practical bibliographical problems and reaching results of agreement in standardization, co-operative distribution of tasks, etc.

The usefulness of this idea is again obvious. The demand has been expressed repeatedly and most recently by the League committee, by the action of the foreign delegates to the A. L. A. semi-centennial, and by the recognition of the matter on the program of the coming Edinburgh Conference.

Altogether so far as the plans are concerned we have here a round dozen plans obviously fitted, if realized, to perform useful service. The only question is whether the Institute is capable of producing these results, *i.e.*, carrying out the practical undertaking. The evidence of ability to do this is of course the achievement about which you ask. What men have done is the rigid test of what men can do. Passing therefore now to: 2. *The Achievements*, I propose to prove that these are in themselves considerable and in view of the means engaged extraordinary.

Any estimate of achievement takes into account results produced (quantity and quality) and means engaged. Means are the fixed factor. In this case means include government appropriations, memberships, gifts and loans, receipts from sales and a large amount of voluntary service. The voluntary service, however, is a part of the achievement rather than means. The point of achievement is the results obtained with given funds.

The annual budgeting means of the Institute from appropriations were, before the war, $5,000 a year; since the war, perhaps $3,000. The receipts from membership have been rather nominal. Any profits from the sales of publications have been more than absorbed in the cost of publication. Very considerable sums have been received by gift or loan from the directors, including, I fancy, the bulk of M. Lafontaine's Nobel prize. Altogether, if I am rightly informed, the average annual cash means, including gifts and loans, corresponding to an American library budget, have been for thirty-three years under $6,000 a year. During the war years, of course, there was no income and no expenditure and at the peak of activity, for some years around 1910, average means may have been as much as $8,000 or $9,000 in a year including large gifts and loans by the directors, but average means with which the following results have been produced have not been more than $6,000.

The results produced may be distinguished into three groups of operations: 1. Tangible results in concrete bibliographical machinery, apparatus or aids, *i.e.*, collections, physically located in the Palais Mondial or published. These include the Repertory with its 13,000,000 cards filed in cabinets, the Library of 150,000 units, *i.e.*, volumes and pamphlets, the document file with a million documents, the bibliographical museum and the department of publications with its printed books and printed cards, including the printed system of classification. 2. The organized operation of these for local and correspondence service during 33 (or 29) years. 3. The organization or promotion of other associations or agencies for producing bibliographical machinery or promoting a cooperation between existing agencies.

Of the concrete achievements two are unmistakably pre-eminent in their fields, that is, they are the greatest achievements of their kind in human history. These are plans 1 and 8, the Repertory of thirteen million filed cards and plan 9, printed system of classification with 40,000 subdivisions printed in 1,500 more or less pages.

The Repertory, both in its primary aspect as

a Union Finding List, and in its by-product aspect of a universal record of published books, has long been an ideal of intellectual workers, the object of pious wishes, propositions and fragmentary efforts. The A. L. A., *e.g.*, proposed such a catalog, then estimated as a matter of two and a half million titles, in its program of 1876. Nobody, however, was found to bell the cat until MM. Lafontaine and Otlet founded the International Institute. The Repertory was its prime object. At first this was visualized as a catalog of printed publications, but as the method of its formation was a synthesis of library catalogs it soon became a Union Finding List whose main object was later defined as "a collective catalog of the libraries of the world, indicating where some copy of a specific work might be found."

This too was nothing new. Collective catalogs were invented before printing and at least forty such catalogs of manuscripts, large or small, are known.

Union catalogs and finding lists of printed books to both printed and card catalogs are common enough. Most of these are local, intended for local service, and most local union lists are of periodicals only. A considerable number, however, are regional, national and even international in scope, and aim to locate copies which can only be reached by travel of the user to the book or book to user. The *National Union List of Serials* is the greatest achievement in the printed finding list field. The largest card union finding lists are those in Berlin, Frankfort, and Washington, with perhaps three million cards each, and the Brussels Repertory with thirteen million cards. The Institute list is thus larger than the other three largest put together, four times larger than any other achievement in the field of card finding lists of printed publications.

This is obviously an achievement of the first order in itself and in view of the financial resources of the Institute remarkable. The cost of cabinets ($3.25 per thousand), filing ($2.25 per thousand), guides, etc., for such a system in America today would alone be perhaps $80,000. The minimum cost of Library of Congress cards or the briefest title written cards as estimated by the Columbia University Library is two cents. This suggests an insurance value for the Repertory as it stands of, say $340,000 or nearly twice the total expenditure of the Institute for all purposes of production and operation of all plans during the whole period of its existence.

A second unique achievement is (Plan 9) the printed system of universal classification.

There are hundreds of such systems in existence running from three or four sub-divisions to tens of thousands. Three systems are preeminent today and in history for the extent to which the sub-division of knowledge has been carried, the Dewey decimal system, the Library of Congress system and the Brussels system. The bulk of the results is, in all three cases, appalling. The L. C. classification is perhaps the most extensive, but it is not completed. Most of the classes are finished, indexed and printed, but a few are still incomplete and there is no general index. The Dewey system and the Brussels one have both been brought to completion, with admirable indexes, in shape for ready use. Both are preparing new editions. Both are great achievements, the greatest in the history of classification, but the Brussels exceeds even the English Dewey in the extent of sub-division. It is a prodigy of intellectual effort. As for the new editions of these classifications now in preparation, I am under the impression that the American Dewey expends several thousand dollars a year in its preparations.

Other concrete achievements of the first magnitude, tho falling short of the unique character of these two, are the international library, the document file and the general publications.

The International Library of 150,000 units (60,000 volumes more or less), was formed by gathering together the various scattered collections of the international associations in Brussels, with the intention of forming a complete library on international affairs.

The gathering of a collection of 150,000 "units" (60,000 to 70,000 volumes) of the average American library of this type, costs an average of well over three dollars per volume. A library therefore of even 60,000 volumes represents a capital value of $180,000 or just about the total funds expended by the Institute in thirty-three years for all purposes.

The document file of current events is perhaps not larger than some of our own American collections, but it is concrete, has a million documents and these contain much material of value (at least on aeronautics and polar exploration). They represent moreover a considerable expenditure for folders and cabinets.

The publishing division of the Institute displays a good shelf-full of publications including a bulletin for sixteen years and a number of other bulky and valuable publications beside the classification. The classification may pay for its printing, but certainly it has not paid for its compilation and few of the other publications probably paid for themselves. One or two may have been specially financed without their falling on the budget. Mr. Bowker and you will be better able than I to judge how much drain these publications were on the annual budget of six thousand dollars.

Altogether the tangible material result now

existing in collections and printed publications must have a fair reproduction value of at least four times the total expenditure of the Institute, not counting the intangible results of the service operation of these collections during thirty years.

(2) The organized operation for thirty (or thirty-three) years of the Library with its 150,000 units, the Repertory with its fifteen thousand drawer cabinets, the Museum, the information service with its thousands of letters annually and the publications department, all under highly difficult circumstances of late, is in itself an achievement and in view of the means at the disposal of the Institute a great achievement. When it is farther remembered that since the war the Institute has been obligated twice to reorganize all this mass of material and with means cut in half, and yet that, except for the library, all have been re-established in fairly orderly shape, so that its reading room and local service are in usable condition, the achievement is certainly remarkable.

(3) Finally, among the achievements of the Institute which may be counted distinguished are the associations which it has founded or promoted: The group of enterprises centering in the Palais Mondial; and the League of Nations Committee on International Co-operation.

The Palais Mondial enterprises include: (a) The Association of International Associations; (b) the International University; (c) the permanent international museum; (d) the world city project.

There is no question of endorsing any of these enterprises. The A. L. A. has carefully distinguished the Institute itself from all the other enterprises and is wholly neutral to all except the Institute. Whatever their value and whether they are visionary or not, we are simply not concerned with them. For better or for worse, however, they are going concerns, the product of the Institute and a testimony to the ability of the Institute to produce results. They are evidence of efficiency.

The museum of international affairs with its 25,000 museum objects in 103 rooms was and is rather stupendous in size, if rather popular and slender in its material and operation. It enlists the co-operation of quite a number of governments and the permanent exposition of the resources and character of the nations represented was highly illuminative, as far as it went, when I saw it. In many cases by clever museum methods results were really striking.

I attended a meeting at which the authorized official representatives of nearly twenty nations were present, and some of these seemed to feel quite strongly that it would be a misfortune if this museum could not be resurrected effectively and the other international features of the Palais promoted. Fifty-three rooms have so far been resurrected.

Granted that the museum is little more than a working model or skeleton, it is an effective working model and demonstration of what might be done. This is a highly significant fact, which differentiates all the Institute plans sharply from the many visionary plans published without any study of the method of making these effective or showing in an experimental way how effective they can be made with moderate means. The Institute has demonstrated all its major plans.

The International University is a predecessor of the more specialized and better supported Williamstown and Geneva international schools of international affairs. I attended several sessions one year and found a very international body of students and a good deal of enthusiasm on the part of some of them. One Chinese student in particular who had attended more than once was very cordial in his estimate of its value to such as he.

As to the League of Nations Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, whatever the value of this committee may prove to be in the long run, it is a going concern, which in turn has produced or occasioned another going concern, the Paris Institute of International Intellectual Co-operation. In this sense it is a concrete achievement and it is an achievement of the Brussels Institute. I was present at its foundation and reported at length on this to the American Library Institute in a special paper. It may seem to the casual observer to have been the achievement of a single individual, M. Lafontaine, but as a matter of fact the idea is an Institute idea and its promotion was team work.

The A. L. A. greeted this enterprise with a good deal of enthusiasm and appointed a special committee to co-operate in its plans if asked. This A. L. A. committee still hopes great things of the League Committee, altho so far it shows few tangible results for the means engaged compared with what the Brussels Institute exhibits.

The annual means of the League committee including the Paris Institute are not far from the total means of the Brussels Institute for thirty-three years. The Committee has, furthermore, the ability to enlist the co-operation of the fifty odd nations who are its constituents.

Without questioning that the service of the League committee has been worth the full amount of the, after all, modest means for a world enterprise of this sort, it must be said that the results nevertheless form a striking contrast to the achievements of the Brussels Institute in that the achievements of the League are mainly ephemeral or at least intangible, compared with the concrete tangible remainder of

cumulated results of the Brussels Institute in Repertory, library, classification, information files, Museum, etc.

The League Committee achievements to date are mainly two very well organized secretariats and a system of national committees.

The potential values of the League Committee with its unsurpassed intellectuality of personnel and its constituency are, however, enormous. It is for this reason that the A. L. A. Committee on Bibliography has felt that a definite operating relation of the League with the Institute would produce maximum results along the lines of the Institute idea, with minimum funds. Its recommendation to the A. L. A. is therefore made contingent on the recommendation of the League Committee. It seems a waste to try now to promote the Institute enterprises without the vigorous co-operation of the fifty-two nations of the League.

Finally, these very considerable achievements with incredibly slight means prove that the *administration* of the Institute is highly efficient both in production and operation, and "its probable service in the future," therefore, unusually large in proportion to any amount of means placed at its disposal.

As a matter of fact, an experienced librarian, studying in detail the huge collections of the Palais Mondial, and the considerable, enthusiastic, well trained and poorly paid or volunteer personnel of the Institute, can hardly fail to be deeply impressed with the executive genius which has kept all these complex systems of service in hand under difficult circumstances, and with so little of even superficial disorder. It is due to the Institute, therefore, in simple fairness, and in view of the current misunderstanding as to its ability to carry out an undertaking, to say plainly, without any confusing reservations, that for effective administration and the ability to produce progressive concrete results with any defined quantity of means, the operations of the Institute are almost unparalleled in its field. Any effort, therefore, to produce the great bibliographical tools needed for the economical prosecution of research today will be unwise not to make the utmost use of the bibliographical genius, the extraordinary bibliographical learning and the demonstrated executive talent of the directors of the Institute, as well as of the concrete basis which they have laid for these matters in the collections of the Palais Mondial.

I, of course, do not mean by these unqualified expressions to say that rigid tests do not reveal aspects of the Institute where methods can be bettered and safeguards provided to reinforce confidence. It would be curious indeed if in so extensive and varied a series of operations, carried almost wholly on the shoulders of two men whose exuberant ideas are subject to little organized criticism save that of one another, there should be no points of weakness, or lacks of perspective, revealed by a rigid testing of practicability. The A. L. A. Committee has, however, reported its findings in these matters in print, with constructive suggestions, and it is not necessary to repeat them here. They do not affect the fact that the Institute has produced a large amount of useful results per dollar engaged or the consequent probability that it will do proportionate service in the future with whatever funds shall be put at its disposal.

The Mitchell Library, 1877-1927

AMERICAN visitors on their pre-conference trip in this month will reach Glasgow almost on the eve of another fifty-year anniversary. The Mitchell Library, then comprising some 14,000 volumes, was opened in temporary premises at 60 Ingram Street in November, 1877. It had its origin in a bequest of £66,998 from the estate of Mr. Stephen Mitchell, a tobacco manufacturer, three years before. For a quarter of a century the library so established was the only public library directly administered by the Town Council, according to the *Descriptive Account of the Corporation Public Libraries of the City of Glasgow*, printed for the Libraries Committee by Robert Maclehose in 1924. The library occupied other quarters in Miller Street before its own building was opened October 16, 1911, on a site adjoining St. Andrew's Halls. The principal public rooms are, on the ground floor, the general reading hall, students' room, ladies' room, Glasgow room, and the room for the Burns collection and Poets' Corner; on the first floor, the magazine room and the Jeffrey reference library. The book room at the rear of the building occupies five floors, and the greater part of an extensive basement is fitted with shelving for large books. By gift and purchase the collections grew from 200,000 to 315,000 from 1912 to 1924. Gifts and bequests have been gratifyingly numerous. In 1901 Andrew Carnegie made a gift of £100,000 to build district libraries, to which he added a further gift of £15,000 in 1908. The number of separate establishments in 1924, excluding four under construction, was twenty-four. One of the most important of these was the Commercial Library opened in the old Miller Street building in 1916 and doubled in size two years later.

IN July the Library Board of the Pomona (Calif.) Public Library voted an increase of ten dollars a month to each staff member who has had technical training, and of five dollars to juniors of at least one year's service.

Standardized Abbreviations for the Names of Libraries

A Plan for Standardizing the Abbreviations for Names of Libraries in Union Lists of Serials, Collections, etc. By Malcolm Glenn Wyer, Librarian of the Denver Public Library.

IN the fall of 1916, the University of Nebraska Library completed a union list of serials for thirteen libraries of Lincoln, Omaha, and surrounding towns, and communicated with the H. W. Wilson Company in regard to publishing this list of serials. At the Midwinter Chicago library meeting in 1916, Mr. Wilson brought from the H. W. Wilson Company a quotation for printing this Nebraska list. When, at this same time, at the university librarians' meeting, the fact was disclosed that the universities of Minnesota and Wisconsin also had serial lists practically ready and that the University of Illinois was completing the revision of its earlier list, the representatives of these libraries agreed with me that a union list for the four libraries would be much more useful than four separate lists and would moreover be the first of a series of regional serial lists for the whole country.

In working out the details for this union list, it soon became evident that many other libraries wished to be included, and it was wisely decided that the scope should be enlarged to cover the middle west libraries in one regional list to which was given the name, North Central Union List. With the certainty that material would be supplied for many libraries, we, at the University of Nebraska Library began to study the question of library abbreviations, as some short symbols to indicate library ownership would be necessary.

A careful examination was made of the abbreviations used in the following lists:

Bates, *Checklist of Connecticut Almanacs.*
Bolton, *Catalogue of Scientific and Technical Periodicals.*
Brockett, *Bibliography of Aeronautics.*
Buck, *Travel and Description.*
Bureau of Railway Economics, *Catalogue of Books on Railway Economics.*
Collections of English Drama.
Collections on European History.
Evans, *American Bibliography.*
Faxon, *Literary Annuals.*
Goodrich, *Prose Fiction.*
Lane, *Early Harvard Broadsides.*
Morrison, *Bibliography of the Official Publications of the Confederate States of America.*
Nichols, *Almanacs of Massachusetts.*
Sabin, *Dictionary of Books Relating to America.*
Scott, *Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois.*

Also the various city and university union lists of periodicals and the depository catalog of the Library of Congress in which are filed printed cards of libraries which publish them.

At once the need for a standardization of library abbreviations was apparent. Illustrations of a few instances will show the lack of uniformity in the abbreviations in use:

Boston Public Library

Bates	B.P.L.	Faxon	B.P.
Bolton	B.P.	Goodrich	BPL
Buck	E	Lane	B
Coll. Eng.	BoP	Sabin	B
Coll. Eur.	BoP	Scott	D
Evans	BPL		

Columbia University Library

Bolton	YC	Coll. Eur.	Col
Bur. Ry. Econ.	CU	Faxon	C.U
Coll. Eng.	Col	Goodrich	C

Harvard University Library

Bolton	CH	Faxon	H.U.
Buck	HC	Goodrich	H
Bur. Ry. Econ.	HU	Lane	H
Coll. Eng.	Har	Nichols	HC
Coll. Eur.	Har	Sabin	H
Evans	HC	Own Use	HCL

New York Public Library

Bates	N.Y.P.	Coll. Eur.	NYP
Bolton	YP	Evans	NYPL
Buck	F	Faxon	N.Y.
Bur. Ry. Econ.	NY	Lane	NYP
Coll. Eng.	NYP	Nichols	N.Y.P.L.

University of Chicago Library

Bolton	ChU	Coll. Eng.	ChU
Bur. Ry. Econ.	UC	Coll. Eur.	ChU

University of Illinois Library

Buck	U	Coll. Eur.	Ill
Bur. Ry. Econ.	UI	Scott	U
Coll. Eng.	Ill		

University of Michigan Library

Bolton	A A	Coll. Eur.	Mich. U.
Bur. Ry. Econ.	UM	Faxon	U.M.
Coll. Eng.	MichU		

Wisconsin Historical Society Library

Bolton	MH	Morrison	W
Buck	W	Scott	W
Coll. Eur.	Wis		

Yale University Library

Bates	Y.U.	Coll. Eur.	Ya
Bolton	NY	Evans	YC
Bur. Ry. Econ.	Y	Lane	Y
Coll. Eng.	Ya		

Thus it is seen that there is no agreement in the abbreviations for even well known libraries. This is surprising especially in the case of recent lists such as that of the Bureau of Railway Economics, *Collections of English Drama*, *Collections on European History*, Evans' *American Bibliography* and Buck's *Travel and Description*, where it might be expected that the prominent libraries would be given the same abbreviation. But a glance at the table above given will show that this is not the case as there is no uniformity for Harvard, Yale, Boston Public, Chicago University, the universities of Illinois, Michigan, Columbia University and the New York Public library. There is, however, substantial tho not complete agreement for the Library of Congress, the John Crerar, the New York State Library, the Boston Athenæum and one or two others, but except in these few cases the abbreviatrons for libraries are in no respect standardized. It is, therefore, evident that there is a need for some system which will provide a practical and logical form of library abbreviation. Uniform library abbreviations are important for regional lists and subjects lists—including libraries from all parts of the country—and while not so necessary for local lists it would be an advantage for a library always to have the same symbol wherever referred to, whether in a local list or a more inclusive one. There is then, an obvious need of a system for securing standard library abbreviations for use wherever libraries can be referred to by abbreviations. Such a system should be adapted for use for the whole of the United States. In studying the question consideration was given to several different plans. The Cutter system might be used in connection with the name of the library or the state. The disadvantage of this is that even with constant use, it would be difficult to become familiar with the symbol for certain libraries.

A system might be followed of using specific abbreviations for libraries—building them up from the name when distinctive or from the city or state. This would have advantages in certain cases such as Car. Inst., Rock. Inst., Am. Soc. C. E. and Minneap. for Carnegie Institution, Rockfeller Institution, American Society for Civil Engineers and Minneapolis Public, but in most cases it would require a long abbreviation and an arbitrary one. Moreover, the abbreviations would not be built up by any plan and would vary with the idea of the compiler of each list, and there would be no uniformity.

It seemed to us that a logical, simple and practicable system of abbreviations could be devised which would have as its basis the abbreviations of the state and of the city where the library is located. State, university and historical society libraries could have a special letter instead of a letter for the city.

Accordingly, the following system for library symbols was worked out by Mr. Frank Peterson, compiler of the original list for the University of Nebraska Library and other Nebraska libraries with some consultation with me over various details and principles. Mr. Peterson was a volunteer member of the University of Nebraska staff and was not a librarian, but carried on this work, because of his love for bibliography, in the odd hours spared from his regular occupation. For a year or two he was employed by the H. W. Wilson Company. He assembled one of the largest libraries relating to the Adventist Church, which he presented to the New York Public Library. His system of library symbols was constructed on the basis of state and city abbreviations with special attention given to the following considerations:

A. Brevity. In a list including a large number of libraries it is important that the abbreviations be as short as consistent with easy identification. This list provides short abbreviations—and all of the larger libraries would be recognized almost on sight.

B. Geographic idea. The regular state abbreviations might be used but better two letter abbreviations and for a few of the states a one letter abbreviation would be sufficiently clear. One letter for the city would be sufficient for the larger libraries and two for the smaller cities.

I would be Illinois
IC would be Chicago
W would be Wisconsin
WM would be Milwaukee
Ia would be Iowa
IaD would be Des Moines

C. Mnemonics. The system is simple to remember because the state abbreviation locates the library and the city abbreviation would almost at once place the city. The mind would not need to carry a special abbreviation for each library—simply the general plan. There should also be mentioned the significant use made of capitals and small letters for abbreviations of states, cities and departmental and branch libraries. Thus CO means the Public Library at Oakland, Cal., Co refers to the Colorado State Library. Similarly COD and COd are the names, in the first case the designation of a library in Oakland beginning with the letter D, and in the latter, the public library in a town beginning with the letters Od, while CoD refers to the public library in Denver. In the case of abbreviations for departmental or state universities and of abbreviations of towns beginning with the letter U a similar procedure is followed. Thus, IU is the University of Illinois

Library and IUR is, say, the Railway Library, a departmental library of the University, but IUr refers to the public library in Urbana, Ill.

D. The use of arbitrary symbols is eliminated, except in one instance, and this would not occur often.

The outline of the plan is here subjoined:

A. State abbreviations
   1. The list
   2. Explanations and rules
B. City abbreviations
C. Abbreviations for names of libraries
   1. State institutional libraries
      a. State libraries
      b. State university and historical society libraries
      c. Other state institutional libraries
   2. Public libraries
   3. Other libraries
   4. Special exemptions

The Plan.

A. State abbreviations

1. The List:

Ala.	Al	Ky.	Ky	N. Dak.	Nd
Alaska	As	La.	La	O.	O
Ariz.	Az	Me.	Me	Okla.	Ok
Ark.	Ak	Md.	Md	Oreg.	Or
Cal.	C	Mass.	M	Pa.	P
Col.	Co	Mich.	Mi	R. I.	R
Conn.	Ct	Minn.	Mn	S. C.	Sc
Del.	De	Miss.	Ms	S. Dak.	Sd
D. C.	D	Mo.	Mo	Tenn.	T
Fla.	Fl	Mont.	Mt	Tex.	Tx
Ga.	Ga	Neb.	Nb	Ut.	U
Hawaii	Hw	Nev.	Nv	Vt.	V
Idaho	Id	N. H.	Nh	Va.	Va
Ill.	I	N. J.	Nj	Wash.	Wa
Ind.	In	N. Mex.	Nm	W. Va.	Wv
Ia.	Ia	N. Y.	N	Wis.	W
Kan.	K	N. C.	Nc	Wyo.	Wy

2. Explanations and rules.
   a. Shortest abbreviation combined with the greatest possible mnemonic effectiveness used.
   b. One letter abbreviation used for states having the largest number of libraries.
      Examples:

Cal.	C
Ill.	I
Mass.	M
N. Y.	N
Wis.	W

   c. Two letter abbreviations.
      (1) Ordinary two letter abbreviations used where possible. Thus, Ct. Fl, Ga, Ia, Ky, Md, Me, Mo.
      (2) If the ordinary two letter abbreviation is not used or does not exist a significant letter, or, in the case of compound names the initial of the second word is used.
      (a) Examples of the use of the significant letter:

Ala.	Al	Minn.	Mn
Alaska	As	Miss.	Ms
Ariz.	Az	Mont.	Mt
Ark.	Ak	Neb.	Nb
Hawaii	Hw	Nev.	Nv
Ind.	In	Tex	Tx

      (b) The compound names:

N. H.	Nh	N. Dak.	Nd
N. J.	Nj	S. C.	Sc
N. Mex.	Nm	S. Dak.	Sd
N. C.	Nc	W. Va.	Wv

   d. The abbreviation is made to correspond as nearly as possible with the spelled out names in alphabetical order.
      Examples:

Mich.	Mi
Minn.	Mn
Miss.	Ms

   e. The second letter is put in lower case so as not to be confused with the city abbreviation which follows in caps. Thus Nh not NH for New Hampshire.
   f. Provision for foreign countries made. In case it is desired to include foreign countries, especially the Canadian provinces, the state abbreviations have been so constructed as to permit their inclusion. The chief European countries have been held in mind.
   g. List of the ordinary two letter abbreviations of states, which are reduced to one letter:

D. C.	D	R. I.	R
N. Y.	N	Ut.	U
Pa.	P	Vt.	V

B. City abbreviations.
   1. Shortest abbreviations used but the mnemonic idea restricted to large and well-known cities. Abbreviations for small towns made with the idea of alphabetical correspondence with the spelled out names.
   2. One letter abbreviation, (except H and U), used for the largest cities or cities having the greatest number of libraries.
      Examples:

ICa	Cairo	NbO	Omaha
IC	Chicago	Nbog	Ogallala

   3. The two letter abbreviations used are governed by the idea
      a. Of using the significant letter in case of well-known or curiously named cities.

b. Of using the letter immediately following the initial for
(1) The sake of alphabetical arrangement, and
(2) The small and lesser-known towns.

4. The second letter is put in lower case.
5. H and U are not used for city abbreviations unless followed by a lower case letter. This provision is made necessary because these letters are used for the historical and state university libraries of the several states.

C. Abbreviations for names of libraries.
1. State institutional libraries
a. State libraries
(1) Designated by the state abbreviation alone:
Examples:
Nb Nebraska State Library
W Wisconsin State Library
(2) In case of departmental libraries in state libraries which should be designated an arbitrary sign followed by an initial designating the departmental library is used. The arbitrary sign selected is the colon.
Example:
Ia Iowa State Library. Miscellaneous Department.
Ia:H Iowa State Library. Historical Department.
b. State university and historical society libraries.
(1) Designated by the capital letters U and H.
(2) Departmental libraries are designated by the capital letters following the U letter.
Examples:
NbU University of Nebraska Library
NbUM University of Nebraska Library Medical Library
NbUMa University of Nebraska Library Mechanic Arts Library
(3) Care is taken that the second letter of a departmental library is put in lower case so as to make provision for departmental libraries within departmental libraries.
(4) In case of departmental libraries located in another city the abbreviation takes the regular university designation and not the name of the place in which it happens to be located. Thus, NbUM not NbOUM for the Medical Library of the University of Nebraska.
(5) Standardization of the designations for departmental libraries.
(a) Subject to special conditions in each library due to
(I) Special collections named after donors
(II) Uniformity of the naming of subject departmental libraries.
(b) In general the larger subjects should be designated by letters which can well be standardized. Thus, NbUL and WUL can stand for the law libraries of these universities, and a library school library such as the University of Wisconsin has should be known as WULi.
(c) Where brief abbreviations are in local use these should be given the preference.
(6) In order that the U and H abbreviations which immediately follow the state abbreviation should not be confused with a city abbreviation beginning with the same letter the latter has a letter in lower case immediately following as shown in the following instances:
NbHa Hastings Public Library
NbU University of Nesbraska Library
NbUn Union Public Library, Union, Neb.
NbUp University Place Public Library, University Place, Neb.
c. Other state institutional libraries.
(1) These are put under place.

2. Public libraries.
a. The library which is supported by the city, or is the largest popular library, or is of Carnegie origin is designated by the combined state and city abbreviation alone.
b. Branch and departmental libraries are designated in the same way as departmental libraries of state libraries, that is, the use of the colon followed by the abbreviations of the branch libraries of local usage, if brief.
Examples:
NN N. Y. Public Library
NN:A N. Y. Public Library Aguilar Branch.
NN:Bd N. Y. Public Library, Bond Street Branch.

NbL Lincoln City Library
NbL:N Lincoln City Library, North Branch.

3. Other libraries.
   a. Designated by the initial of the first word or of the significant word of library or of institution following the combined state and city abbreviation.
      Examples:
      ICAc Chicago Academy of Sciences
      ICJ The John Crerar Library
      ICN Newberry Library
      ICU University of Chicago Library
      NNC Columbia University Library
      NBL Long Island Historical Society Library
4. Special exemptions.
   a. Exemptions made on which there is apparently no question as to their feasibility:
      Library of Congress—LC not DL
      American Antiquarian Society Library—AAS not MWA
      British Museum Library—BM not ELB
      Harvard University Library—HC not MCH
      Yale University Library—YC not CtNY
   b. Possible exemptions:
      John Crerar Library—JC or ICJ
      Johns Hopkins University Library—JHU or MdBJ

This system for library abbreviations which was evolved by Mr. Frank Peterson was submitted to Dr. Andrews, who had been appointed chairman of the committee for the North Central Union List. When the scope of this list was in turn expanded into the *National Union List* to include all the libraries of the country, this plan for library abbreviations was adopted and became a part of the *National Union List*. It would not be possible to publish with the Union List the full explanation of the principle on which the system is built up, but it seems important that a full explanation should be made available for future study and reference.

These abbreviations have an importance, not alone from their use in the *National Union List*, but because it is the first time that library symbols have been worked out systematically, and because, without doubt, these abbreviations will be adopted by all future union lists and subject bibliographies of special collections contained in the libraries of this country.

The Libraries of the Maritime Provinces

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

I have read with interest the article in your July number on the above subject, written by Miss Estelle M. Vaughan of the city library, Saint John, N. B. I ask space to supplement it with some facts that have escaped the notice of Miss Vaughan and that are worth recording to make a complete statement of our libraries.

Miss Vaughan has failed to mention King's College Library, Windsor, N. S., established early in the eighteenth century. Up to a few years ago, it was the leading library in the Maritime Provinces. Many of its collections are rare and valuable. It possesses thirty-five volumes of the "Aldine Classics," and many other highly prized books. To Abbé Sigogne, the famous Acadian educationist, it is indebted for a number of French classics of a past age. Any account of our Maritime libraries would be a failure that did not give prominence to this fine collection of books. Miss Vaughan has also omitted to give any prominence to the splendid new library building at Mount Allison, erected last year. It is of the Tudor style of architecture. It is the largest and finest library building in the eastern Provinces and one of the best in Canada. The library at Mount Allison, like that of Kings and Acadia, has been selected for the needs of the scholar and student and is free from light literature and fiction.

It is worth recording also that the library of Acadia University possesses one of the finest collections of Canadiana in existence. For purposes of local history it is unexcelled. The Dominion Archives at Ottawa has been obliged to draw upon its resources.

Mention ought also to be made of the libraries of St. Joseph's College at Memramcock, N. B., and of St. Frances Xavier at Antigonish, N. S., which are youthful but growing and full of promise.

Any voluntary organization for the public weal is apt to suffer during its first years from pique or jealousy, or incompetence of some of its officials. The Maritime Library Association is no exception, and it was found necessary to supersede some officers and appoint others possessing university training and connected with university life. The effect of the change has been wholly beneficial. Under the auspices of the Association two works on local history have been published and probably thirty more in hand will be published as funds permit. Also two or more county histories are in sight. More libraries are needed and to that end, the efforts of the Association are directed.

W. C. MILNER, *President,*
Maritime Library Association.

Wolfville, N. S.

Humanizing a Library Building

By ARTHUR ELMORE BOSTWICK,
Librarian of the St. Louis Public Library

THE recognition of the reader as an essential part of the library has doubled the size of the librarian's job and more than doubled its importance. When we add readers to books as an additional unit for our consideration, we not only add the care of this unit *per se* but that of its relations with the other unit. In fact these relations have become the important thing about library work. We must still study books and we must study readers but after all, the important thing is the reading of books —the adaptation of the book to the reader and the reader to the book. We saw this always, I suppose, thru a glass darkly and we have been seeing it clearly for a good many years but largely as it affects our stock in trade, not so clearly as it affects the place where our business is to be carried on. What is there about a library building that needs to be considered in connection with this adjustment between book and reader?

As given to me, my title confines me to the interior of the building but readers will never see the inside of a building until they have seen the outside and sometimes, I believe, the mere sight of the outside effectually keeps them out. We must, therefore, begin with the outside whether we will or no. The number of persons who do not know that there is such a thing as the public library in their town is appalling, not to mention those who know this but do not know where it is or what it looks like or have never been inside it or if they have, have never used it, or if they have used it, have never done so with intelligence or to any purpose. These cases, I am afraid, make up a large majority of almost every community. It is to lessen their number that we are making our studies in publicity. All publicity contributes to humanization. I am concerned only with the re-action of the building on a potential reader when he is once within sight of it. Obviously he must know, first, that it is a library and, second, what its functions are and what his possible relations are to those functions. A library then should obviously be a library and not be likely to be mistaken for a railroad station, the city hall, a bank, or a factory. I am told that it is not an uncommon experience in New York for desk attendants to be asked for tickets to Buffalo or Pittsburgh. Others have told me that applications for marriage licenses are occasionally received. In my own city, I have known instances of intelligent citizens who have walked daily past a branch library without knowing or caring to inquire what it was. If we are to get the readers into the library, which is the first method of humanizing it, we shall have to force it upon their attention visually.

Many years ago, I called attention to the fact that the best libraries for this purpose were those in rented stores with large plate-glass windows, thru which every passerby could look and see what was going on inside. There is no form of publicity better than this. Until very recently, however, no large buildings, not even branches, have been built in this style. One trouble is that it is always desired to use the basement for some library purpose and this means that it must be high enough to get light. The main floor must then be reached by a flight of outside steps and the windows are too high for the passerby to look thru them. Mr. Ranck has recently built a branch in Grand Rapids whose interior can be seen thru the windows in the way that I advocate. Our Carpenter Branch in St. Louis, opened last February, was planned with this in view and the result has been most successful. Immediately on opening, it took its place at once at the head of all our branches for size of circulation and I am inclined to attribute this fact to the ease with which the entire interior may be seen from the sidewalk. At night it is a beautiful and instructive sight, worth any possible number of colored posters, lists of books and printed adjurations to use the library. The bringing of the ground floor down to the street level has made it necessary to place in an annex building many of the activities that would otherwise have been in the basement. We find, however, that they are not only better housed in the annex but also that the extra cost is very slight owing to the saving in excavation.

Now how shall we arrange the interior of our building so that our reader, after we have lured him in, shall be more apt to make the proper contact with books? This is really more a matter of the man (I mean the woman) behind the gun than the gun itself, but it is not to be denied that arrangement and equipment may play an important part. First, I place the general impression that is made on the eye on entering the room. The old library was too

institutional. Its entrance might easily be that of a bank or a city hall, and much valuable space has been taken up in this useless way. I know a library in a southern city where the entrance hall occupies half of the frontage and is filled with a magnificent marble staircase fine enough for the Paris Opera House. Stairways are favored architectural features in the entrance hall of a building but they are largely survivals. Stairs are now means of vertical transportation of only secondary importance. No one will use them when there is an elevator to be had. If any thing is to be featured in the entrance hall it should be the elevator, and the stairs should be inconspicuous. I see no reason indeed why some at least of the public elevators should not be in other parts of the building, transporting users of the library directly from a reading room on one level to one of another kind on the level above or below. The first architect who designs a large building in which the reader walks immediately into a book room, as he does in a branch library, and yet succeeds in achieving a spacious and dignified entrance hall will have accomplished something. These mistakes are made mostly in the so-called monumental buildings that house the central collection of a library but we occasionally see them even in branches. If we are to bring the activities of the library into the street thru visual contacts, those activities must be separated from the street merely by windows. This means that there must be rooms filled with books or readers directly at the front of the building. I believe that there should even be books as near as possible to the outer door even in a large building. The open shelf department may well be the first room to be entered, and in general all the so-called popular features of the library, in other words, those that will claim the attention of a new reader and induce him to make a second visit, should be those that catch his eye immediately on entrance. These are, for instance, wall shelving with attractively bound books, good pictures, comfortable and useful furniture, the presence of all the mechanical and human aids that we have to offer him—catalogs, lists, the desk of the readers' adviser, the information desk and so on.

It is possible, of course, to remove the building a little too far from an institutional appearance. After all, we are an institution and if we look a little like one we cannot complain so long as appearances indicate that we are an attractive and a useful one. I have known libraries that effectively scared away all but the local four hundred by furniture and equipment that would have been suitable for the private library of a millionaire—soft oriental rugs, valuable etchings, window draperies, carved furniture and all the rest of it. The proletariat absolutely would not go near this place; it looked as if they were not expected, and to tell the truth, I do not believe they were. Fortunately, the fashion now, even in private house furnishing, runs a little to plainness and bareness.

The two things, both distinctively American, which have done more than any others to humanize our public libraries, are the open shelf and home use. Both have modified the interior arrangement and equipment of our buildings but I am not sure that we have yet brought our buildings into complete correspondence with them. In the case of home use, the corresponding equipment is mostly mechanical—systems for registration and for recording the issue and return of books. Registration has been greatly humanized of late by greater liberality but this has not affected the machinery by which it is carried out. In many of these mechanical operations, we have inquired too little into the possibility of mechanical devices. These might greatly hasten operation, relieve congestion in rush hours and so contribute greatly to humanization. The A. L. A. should have a committee on mechanical devices in library administration.

Free access has modified building arrangement very greatly. In the parts of buildings where it obtains, wall shelving has to a great extent been used thruout the room, and where this is departed from, it has been thru necessity due to congestion rather than because such departure was desirable in itself. The best contact with the reader is made, I believe, by straight wall shelving in open shelf rooms and nothing else.

We place some of our open shelf books too near the floor to be easily examined and others too far above the head of the reader. Only about three shelves are in a good position for easy observation and consultation, and the ideal plan would be to restrict the active collection to these three shelves. Here again, of course, we come into conflict with considerations of space. The new A. L. A. committee on mechanical devices will doubtless investigate the possibility of moving shelving, in which any particular shelf can easily and quickly be brought directly on a level with the eye of a reader. Browsing at library shelves is greatly facilitated by the presence of some place to rest a heavy book that can not easily be held in the hand. Where there are reading tables near the shelves, such a book is easily carried to an adjacent table. Otherwise an actual sloping shelf or desk in connection with the book case is of humanizing value. Very heavy reference books in constant use, such as large one-volume dictionaries, should never be so placed that it is necessary to lift or move them. The long, low sloping desks with benches in front of them,

now standardized by makers of library furniture, are ideal for this purpose.

The open shelf and home use have accompanying disadvantages and evils. They were both once frowned upon by librarians but they have now become an integral part of our library system and have done much to popularize it and make it useful. In combination they are responsible for much loss of books. We all know how easy it is to steal from open shelves. A few large libraries have attempted to control theft of this kind by placing guards at exit doors to examine books. This may be effective, but from the humanizing standpoint it is certainly objectionable. No matter how attractive the arrangement of a library, how easy the consultation of its books, and how agreeable and helpful its assistants, if the reader after having been put in the proper frame of mind by all this is held up at the outer door on suspicion that he may be a thief, this one thing is apt to undo all that has been done for him within, and I can not believe that the plan will be generally adopted.

The working conditions of the library staff have often a very important influence on the service that the library gives to its readers. Of course, where the issue is one between the comfort of the staff and service to the public, there can be no doubt which ought to be favored at the expense of the other. To make things more easy or comfortable for the staff at the expense of the reader is, of course, something that no librarian would think of doing, altho I believe that occasionally changes are made for the benefit of the staff without realizing that they will eventually interfere with service. In many cases, however, there is no such conflict as this. Increased comfort for the staff frequently means improved service for the public. We have come to realize this very strongly and in recent library buildings the staff quarters are satisfactory and in some cases almost luxurious. It adds greatly to their accessibility if as many of these rooms as possible can be on the same floor with the workers who use them and as close as possible to their working space. This is also true of work rooms to which the public is not admitted. With a library building as fully departmentalized as the Cleveland Public Library, for instance, provision for adjacent work room adds enormously to efficiency and reacts ultimately in better service to the public.

The adaptation of library furniture to its uses is an important item in humanization. Many improvements have been made in furniture both by manufacturers and dealers and also by librarians themselves. The furniture in the new Cleveland Building is noteworthy as being very largely especially designed by members of the staff for the purposes for which it is intended. But no one need think that because an item in building or equipment is adapted to its users today, it will necessarily remain so tomorrow. Fashion governs here as elsewhere and we can not afford to neglect considering it. For instance, there was a loud chorus of approval when Edwin H. Anderson, a quarter of a century ago, substituted for tables in his Pittsburgh branch libraries seats arranged back to back in a circle with a shaded lamp in the middle. He argued very logically that when we read at home, we do not sit facing a table and place our book upon it but sit, book in hand, with our back to the light. He saw no reason why this should not be the case also in a library and he proceeded to act on his conviction, with great incidental saving in the cost of tables. These fixtures were widely copied and some of them exist today but they have never been popular. I have experimented with them and show to my own satisfication that as long as there is a vacant seat at a table, a library reader will always occupy it. Seats without the protection of a table are always regarded as second choice. Why this is so, I do not know; but as I have said before, we can not afford to neglect these whims if we are anxious to adjust our buildings to the desires of the public.

Again, the apsidal stack room was once considered so necessary a feature of every branch library that few were constructed without it. I do not believe such a stack has been put into a branch library in the past ten years. Even before they went out of fashion, architects began to build them without any idea of their function, which is usually the first step towards discontinuance. Instead of placing the charging desk at the center of the apse so that the stack would radiate from it, it was put at some other point which rendered the radial arrangement absolutely useless. There are just as many reasons in favor of the apsidal stack room now as there were thirty years ago and no more against it. Its discontinuance is due to a change of fashion.

Efforts to minister to the comfort and pleasure of the public on theoretical grounds often come to naught. There is no test in this matter except that of actual trial. Libraries have been endeavoring for a quarter of a century to popularize reading in the open air but without very much success, altho everyone acknowledges that such a plan "ought" to be successful. Attempts at open air reading rooms on roofs, in courtyards and in gardens may be found in many places thruout the United States. I have built a large number of roof gardens myself and planned and equipped them with a good deal of enthusiasm, but that enthusiasm was evidently not shared by the public. On revisiting New

York I find that many of them have been discontinued and I do not know whether any are still functioning. Years ago I was much struck with the beautiful garden reading rooms at some of the Los Angeles branches but I was told there last April that these were not at all popular with the public. The same is true of the patio reading rooms in Miss Drake's library in Pasadena.

In fine, our libraries must be human if they are to minister to the needs of human beings. Fortunately these beings have intelligence and a voice. If we keep our eyes and ears open and our minds clear, we shall make the necessary adjustments.*

*This paper was read at the A. L. A. Library Buildings Round Table at Toronto, June, 1927.

Possibilities of Informal Education Under Library Guidance

By VIRGINIA CLEAVER BACON

Adviser in Adult Education, Library Association of Portland, Ore.

SINCE it is better to begin with disillusionment than it is to end with it, let us begin by admitting that a person going from schools for adolescents into a library department of adult education will be disappointed if she expects as a prevailing characteristic of its users that greater definiteness of aim, fixity of purpose and tenacity of effort which certain blithe idealists have described as the characteristics of adults seeking education.

It may be long before she encounters an adult as rapacious for print as a twelve year old boy or girl. The sustained intellectual effort of school and college years is not often found after the individual's whole family ceases to concentrate upon securing it. An adolescent may so little know what he wants to learn that he drops out of school altogether, but that indefiniteness is prone to increase with time rather than to diminish, and the request he brings as an adult to the reader's adviser, if not narrowly vocational, is vaguely for "the books I ought to read."

Adding and dividing human extremes and calling the non-existent mean an average person is a process essentially and basically false, so I shall not discuss any "average" adult students. But one comes to recognize that the individual presenting himself for library aid frequently is only vaguely or momentarily interested in study; is indefinite in his plans which are subject to frequent interruptions; may be sceptical regarding either or both the adviser's and his own abilities, or falsely inflated by the "get wise easy" type of advertisement; is inexperienced in methods of study and has a mind made lazy by its easy victories over popular magazines, light fiction and moving pictures; suffers from an inferiority complex or its over-compensation; and presents problems before whose calculous those of adolescent teaching become mental arithmetic with the answers in the back of the book.

Having said so much, one hastens to record the fact that the purposive, disciplined, definite student seeking stimulus and training for an adult mind, "grown beyond the easy judgments and rather superficial training of youthful immaturity," is not unknown. About thirty-five per cent of the people using the adult education department in Portland during the spring months of this year had matriculated in college; not a few had received one or more degrees; and an encouraging number of them, including more than a few of the non-collegians, fell easily within the scope of Dr. Keppel's definition of the adult student "seriously and consecutively" undertaking learning on his own initiative "as a supplement to some primary occupation."

Still, inspiring as it is to encounter these men and women, and convenient as one may be to them, in the long run they would probably attain their ends even under such magnificently general guidance as that given in one of the recent "outlines": "Other books on psychology and philosophy can be found thru the *United States Catalog*."

Our technique in adult education—if we can call rule of thumb methods a technique—must be based on the insufficiencies of the former group, dependent upon us, and at least sufficiently purposive to come once to our desks, offering us in their possibilities, however deeply latent, one of the most exciting challenges ever presented to our by no means humdrum profession.

The essential processes are the interviews, "tactful, friendly, unhurried and undisturbed;" the reading course, individually planned and annotated; and the follow-up.

Characteristics of well prepared reading courses are specified in the report of the A. L. A. on libraries and adult education (*Libraries and Adult Education*, p. 32) and the nine points listed there can be applied as a gage to our work. The third specification seems to me the

most important in making a list for the unskilled student. It reads: "A selection of books of such interest as to compel the attention of the reader once he has undertaken the course." It sounds simple—and can sometimes be achieved.

Tho it proves easier to be accurate and comprehensive than to be interesting, the difficult should not daunt us, and every list should be definitely tested for interest. "Would father read these books?" "What would cousin Betty, or the housemaid, think of them?" The librarian's having read them is not a good test. I am altogether convinced that to use books in this way effectively, one must have read them. I grant the exceptions. In helping an advanced student, one must enlist the aid of a specialist and largely follow his advice. But even then I try to induce the specialist to write annotations, so that the vitalizing spark of enthusiasm may flash from his mind to that of the student. Fortunately, the majority of the registrants in an adult education department do not require books outside the possible scope of the library adviser's experience; and, since so much depends on the correct choice of books, I believe that even at the cost of restricting the number of books we use, we should know at first hand those we do use.

The first book on a study list is the most important one. Both the adviser and the list are on approval until they have convinced the reader of their competence. For that reason, we no longer attempt always to give an applicant a book at the time of the first conference. Such a book is apt to be too hurriedly chosen. Instead, we deliver a book most painstakingly selected, along with the prepared list, which is mailed only in rare and unusual circumstances.

Practically all of our lists are annotated, and the notes try first to convince the reader of the interest and importance of each book. The extent and type of the additional annotation is determined by the amount of direction needed in each individual case; even when the lists are identical, annotations may vary widely. Also, we talk over the whole list at the time it is delivered. Often this talk includes advice about methods of study, keeping of notebooks, even about budgeting of time. I should like to attach one of Mr. Lynd's *I Wish I Had More Time to Read* leaflets to every new list, but I husband my supply for especially needy cases.

Definiteness, progression, breadth of viewpoint are all, as the report already referred to emphasizes, essential qualities. Length of lists I measure by time rather than by book units, and try for a list which will occupy the reader for whom it is made for about two to three months. By that time both of us will have improved, and a new second list will be better than a longer one would have been. Each list attempts to develop the reader's own ability of book selection, as well as to give him the information he is seeking. Often I suggest that he make a list of his own from suggestions or bibliographies in the listed books, and bring it in for discussion. When possible, lists conclude with a summary of the ground covered; they always try to indicate how much of interest lies beyond; and, finally, they invite the reader to return for more advanced lists.

With us, as elsewhere, demand is already taxing our ability to give adequate service. Our system of follow-up is incomplete, since most of the books after the first one are issued from the circulation department; but approximately a fifth of our readers return for other lists, and many more come back for occasional conferences. Some have been registrants and re-registrants for the full year and a half of our existence and their enthusiasm indicates that they may be permanent library students.

I said that I began with disillusionment. I conclude with the firmest faith that an individualized educational service can do much to keep grown people growing, to liberate their minds, and to enrich their lives; my one fear is that too many of them may discover too soon how much—that we may be over-advertised by our friends. Other public educational institutions have all found individualized service too costly to be practicable, so that standardization is a disease from which many of those who seek us are suffering. To be individuals somewhere where they are not—as in court or clinic—also regarded as cases, becomes to them an intellectual stimulus in itself that sets them on the way to health.

Can we, by taking thought, provide against the perils of popularity? Are we establishing our methods so surely that we will not yield the unhurried interview, the individually planned, annotated list, the friendly contact, to the press of increased demands upon us? These are questions we must soon answer. Nobody else does it. Can libraries?

Rutgers Library Survey

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY at New Brunswick which has been the state university of New Jersey since 1917, was the object from October 18 to November 15 last year of a survey undertaken by the United States Bureau of Education upon the request of the trustees of the university and with the approval of the governor of the state and of the state commissioner of education. As an historic college with a colonial charter now in process of transformation into a state university and the only land-grant college

or state university in the metropolitan area (of New York City), the problem of Rutgers is of wide and singular interest, said President John M. Thomas in his letter to the U. S. Commissioner of Education requesting the survey to be made. Specialists from the staff of the Bureau of Education were assisted by authorities from universities of the east and middle west who are distinguished for their knowledge of educational problems, and the survey is now published as a Bureau report (*Survey of Rutgers University;* directed by Arthur Jay Klein, Ph.D., chief of the Division of Higher Education, Bureau of Education. New Brunswick, N. J., 1927. 258p.).

The library of the university is confronted by the problems which arise in institutions having both undergraduate and advanced clientèles. The library in 1926 contained 137,624 bound volumes which have been regularly accessioned and cataloged, a large collection of bound volumes which still remain uncataloged, and a great mass of unorganized pamphlets. The Library of Congress classification has been used since 1910, but several large groups still remain unclassified. The library budget provides for only two catalogers, and the post of assistant to the head cataloger was vacant at the time of the report. The Voorhees Library, which houses the university library, has recently been enlarged by an addition which makes the total capacity of the stacks 270,000 volumes. The addition also has an attractive and well-lighted reading room which seats 250 readers. Moving of library books and other equipment into the stacks has only recently been completed, and the library was not in a position to present itself to the best advantage at the time of the visit of the Survey Committee. The library of the college of agriculture and state agricultural experiment station is administered as a branch of the university library, the librarian of which is also librarian of the agricultural library, and the university library attends to the purchase, accessioning, and cataloging of books and periodicals for the agricultural library, which contains about 9,000 cataloged volumes and about 22,000 pamphlets. The library of the New Jersey College for Women does its own book purchasing and its cataloging and classifying independently of the university library. The library has commodious quarters in the new recitation building recently erected on the college campus. The cataloged volumes in the library number about 8,000, and there is also a "browsing" collection of about 2,000 books. In addition there is the uncataloged and unclassified mass of books, 20,000 in number, recently removed from storage. The library books, so far as classified at all, are arranged according to the L. C. classification. The state appropriation for the purchase of books and periodicals for the library of the college for women is now made annually so as to be available for use at one time only, and not thruout the fiscal year as the need may from time to time arise. The book purchases for the entire college year must therefore be planned so as to be made in advance at one time toward the opening of the year.

According to Willis H. Kerr in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for February 15, 1926, the school library standard of one member in the library staff to each ten teachers is applicable in fixing the number of staff members in college and university libraries. The university and the experiment station employ 282 persons engaged for their full time in academic pursuits, of whom 185 are connected with the agricultural divisions. The entire library staff including the head librarian, Mr. Osborn, numbers 12 persons, thus falling decidedly short of the recommended ratio. Salaries of the library staff are now paid from endowments in order that the positions may not come under the state civil service regulations. The amount from endowments so used in 1926-27 amounted to $27,000. The state appropriation for books, periodicals, and binding for that period was made $15,000 instead of the previous $5,200. Endowment funds also make $1,675 annually available for the purchase of books. The university library lends books to the citizens of New Jersey in general.

The Survey Committee recommends that the college for women be made an integral part of the library system of the state university, that the cataloging and classifying of the entire library be pushed to completion as fast as possible and funds provided for an increase in the library staff, that provision be made for the development of a library extension service, not to compete with the state library commission, and that development of the university library should contemplate the future erection of a great central library as the dominating feature of a new undergraduate campus.

The Teacher and the Library, by Lonna D. Arnett, librarian of the University of West Virginia, is a useful digest of some fifty references on the use of supplementary reading in all subjects taught in junior and senior high schools and in colleges, with additional sections on note taking and the use of magazines in school work. Connecting and introductory passages are written by the compiler. Pros and cons of the desirability of supplementing a basic textbook with other required reading constitute a first chapter of much interest. This pamphlet of eighty pages is issued by the state department of education at Charleston, West Virginia.

A Notable Bibliography of Library Economy

IS librarianship a profession? The question has been debated vigorously for many years. Recent as well as remote happenings in American libraries indicate rather clearly that professional recognition is not universally accorded librarians as such, tho such recognition is perhaps more general than ever before.

It is rather generally admitted that a profession, to be recognized as one, must, among other characteristics, have a large body of literature relating to the principles and practices of the profession. The recent celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the A. L. A. has added considerably to the bulk of this professional literature. During or in the wake of this celebration appeared a four-volume *Survey* of the library field, a new and enlarged edition of the *A. L. A. Catalog*, monographs on *Library Extension* and *Adult Education*, many minor publications and last, but not least, the fullest extant bibliography of professional periodical library literature in English.

Cannons' *Bibliography of Library Economy** with its nearly seven hundred double column pages of references is renewed evidence that at least in quantity librarians can show a respectable amount of professional writing.

The author, H. G. T. Cannons, borough librarian of Finsbury, England, published the first edition of this work in 1910 with the imprint of S. Russell and Company, London. The manuscript of this revised edition was offered to the A. L. A. several years ago. The expense of publication made it necessary to underwrite it thru advance subscriptions and its appearance in print has been consequently delayed. To avoid any appearance of partiality, I hasten to say that its acceptance preceded my service as a member of the Editorial Committee and that I first saw it several weeks after its regular publication. Having no responsibility for it, I can be impartial.

In its present form it has been expanded from the original 15,000 references to 32,500. With almost seventeenth century fullness, the compiler in his subtitle gives the scope of the work: "A classified index to the professional periodical literature in the English language relating to library economy, printing, methods of publishing, copyright, bibliography, etc., from 1876 to 1920."

*Cannons, H. G. T. *Bibliography of Library Economy . . . 1876-1920.* Chicago: American Library Association, 1927. 680 p. $18.

The sixty-five periodicals indexed (page 8 says 66) are all professional. That is, they are published by librarians for librarians. Forty-eight were indexed in the 1910 edition.

All the leading general periodicals like the LIBRARY JOURNAL, *Public Libraries* (now *Libraries*), the *Library Association Record*, etc., are included. Bulletins, transactions and proceedings of the leading library associations and library commissions, American, English and colonial, are indexed. Perhaps the most serious omission is the *Ontario Library Review*, now in its eleventh volume. Failure to include this gives an imperfect list of sources from which to learn of the remarkable growth of libraries in that progressive province. The papers and proceedings of the American Library Institute as far as published are also missing. In view of their irregular appearance this is not surprising.

Nevertheless, the sins of omission are few and the virtues of commission are many. In no other one place can so many references on so many kinds of libraries be found. The period covered is one of great interest and significance in library history. It includes the beginning and development of the so-called "modern library movement," thru the World War with its remarkable camp library service, the growth of the library schools, the democratization of library service and the expansion of school library service. The beginnings of the present expansion of A. L. A. activities and of county libraries were definitely outlined before 1920, the *terminus ad quem* of the volume.

In the older days of pulpit oratory there were several bulky cyclopedias of illustrations, usually rather graphic and preferably veracious, with which the worthy preacher could dilute the heavier stream of his discourse. This work should be equally valuable to the speaker at library meetings. The amount of accepted theory and practice it contains will serve as a starting point for almost any kind of paper or report on a library topic. Many of the younger librarians may be disappointed to find, if they consult this bibliography, that their professional discoveries and library reforms have often been anticipated, realized and sometimes discarded before the present generation had a chance to prove its professional originality.

It is almost inevitable that students in library schools, framers of library surveys, and the graduate library students of the future whose rising stars seem imminent in both the east and

west, will find this for some time one of the most useful sources for historical summary or comparative study.

The material is listed under a very elaborate classification of twenty-five main sections and 2,980 sub-sections. "The classification adopted, so far as practicable, conforms to the arrangement of the *A. L. A. Manual of Library Economy*, related subjects being placed near one another, and under each head, or sub-head, the titles are arranged in chronological order, so that the latest material may be found at once." An alphabetic subject index of fifty-seven double column pages gives quick access to any sub-head.

The extent of the work is indicated by the length of some of the main sections. For example: D. Work with children, covers seventy-two pages; E. Legislation, twenty-eight pages; G. Library schools and training for librarianship, twenty-seven pages; M. Propaganda and publicity, eighteen pages; P. Cataloging and indexing, thirty-six pages.

The articles listed have obviously been read, or at least examined by the compiler. For example, there are separate references to monastic and private libraries in Norway, tho each is only a small part of Mr. Ansteinsson's more general paper on the library history of Norway.

The compiler modestly says of his work, "It does include several articles which were considered of sufficient importance and which have appeared in general magazines." A few random glances show such articles listed from the *American Historical Association Reports*, *Ave Maria*, the *Catholic Education Review*, *Educational Review*, *History Teachers Magazine*, *Institutional Quarterly*, *Medical Library and Historical Journal*, and *Normal Instructor*. This indicates only a small part of the rather large number of such articles included. They show careful selection and it is regrettable that the compiler was not able to include more. More of these outside references would have been especially useful in connection with school libraries, where the attitude of the teacher and school official is not always clear to librarians, and in the field of printing and publishing. In these last two fields librarians could usually learn more from the printers' magazines and the booksellers' organs than from library periodicals. No librarian can be abreast of the book side of his work who is not conversant with many of the general articles in the *Publishers' Weekly* and, in lesser degree, the *Publishers' Circular*. On the historic as well as the utilitarian side of bookmaking, there are many articles in American and English journals of typography which have decided value to librarians. Indexing the *Library*, the *Proceedings of the Bibliographical Society of America* and the *Irish Book-lover* gives a bibliographical flavor welcome to the bibliographer and bibliophile.

There is no author index. The contributor to library periodicals who expects by such articles to send his name resounding thru the halls of fame will get little comfort from seeing his contributions scattered thru many pages of subject subdivisions. On the other hand some will perhaps feel comforted to find their youthful professional indiscretions thus mercifully hidden.

The size of the volume (680 double column large octavo pages) and the large number of abbreviations and other technical difficulties to the printer have made the book expensive. It has been issued in a small edition and will, in all probability, be found mostly in the large libraries, especially those which have a considerable number of the periodicals indexed. In the large reference library, the university or large college library, the library school or the library commission office it will undoubtedly prove very useful very often.

Typographically, the book just misses being successful. The type is clear and the general page tone excellent for a book intended for consecutive reading. Unfortunately, the printer, or some other responsible person, forgot that in a reference book legibility must be found thru contrast in heading and sub-divisions if one main purpose of the book, ease of reference, is to be attained. The attempt to avoid the block letters which disfigured the average library publication a few years ago is to be commended. Unfortunately, the other extreme of no contrast is even worse so far as utility is concerned. The running heads give no clue to the sub-heads, while the sub-heads diffidently hide in genteel subdued capitals among the individual entries. The page is hard to consult.

In the copy I have been using the paper creases easily and in one or two places margins and corners have broken. In view of the intrinsic value of the book, it is to be hoped that this is a peculiarity of an individual copy and not characteristic of the edition.

Occasionally, the proof reader has nodded and the same name is spelled differently in different places or some similar inconsistency has persisted. Such lapses are far fewer than any bibliographer of experience would expect to find in a work of the extent and scope of this.

In general, the work is to be commended to all students of library affairs and to library administrators interested beyond local traditions or practice. It is a record of rather notable achievement in a phase of education which has been known for many centuries, but of which

the possibilities are even yet only in part realized. The compiler has placed all librarians under obligation. It is to be hoped that a continuation from 1920 to some later date yet to be determined is already under way or that it will soon be begun.

FRANK K. WALTER, *Librarian.*
University of Minnesota Library.

The Short Title Catalogue of English Books Before 1640

THE publication by the Bibliographical Society in Great Britain of *A Short Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland and Ireland, and of English Books Printed Abroad 1475-1640* marks a milestone along the road of English bibliography for which librarians and scholars thruout the world will be grateful. This catalog lists 26,143 such books and locates for us two copies in Great Britain and two copies in America whenever possible; and in cases where a book is very rare tries to locate all of the known copies. It is a volume of permanent value and should serve as a basis for other useful bibliographical work both in Great Britain and in America.

American libraries, private and public, in which books are located for us number fifteen, with preference apparently given to the Henry E. Huntington Library and the New York Public. Other American libraries noted are: The John Carter Brown Library, the Chapin Library at Williams College, Colgate, Library of Congress, Newberry, Princeton, Harvard, Yale and the libraries of J. L. Clawson, H. C. Folger, C. H. Pforzheimer, W. A. White and J. P. Morgan.

In a work so admirable as this and one entailing so much labor, one hesitates to criticize and it is not in the spirit of criticism that I point out a few errors and omissions. The catalog leaves something to be desired in arrangement, especially in the matter of cross references, but the editors have forestalled criticism on this point by stating that a supplementary volume will be published later which will make the catalog more useful to scholars. This will be an admirable addition, but the average user of the catalog will wish that the supplement had been made a part of the original work. Cross references would have been particularly valuable where the real author's name does not appear on the title page and where compilers' or translators' names only appear. As an example I might cite *The History of Trauayle in West and East Indies*, etc., gathered in parte and done into English by Richarde Eden, newly set in order, augmented and finished by Richarde Willes, imprinted in London by Richarde Jugge, 1577. It is impossible to identify this in the *Short Title Catalogue* without further bibliographical research. The book is listed, however, under its author Anglerius, Petrus Martyr, number 619.

The Chapin Library is recorded as in Williamtown, Virginia, instead of Massachusetts. No addresses are given for the private individuals whose libraries are listed, but perhaps the editors felt that these individuals were so well known as not to need further identification. One is at a loss to determine why a note should have been given after the second folio of Shakespeare, no. 22274, calling attention to one unique variant when no reference is made to the well known 'Coppies' variant and other variants of the Allot issue, and no notes are given for the other three folios or the rest of the Shakespeare items. All of them need such notes, and it would seem that either notes should have been given for all or for none. In some instances, the description of a book where many editions of the same date are given, such as the New Testament, is too meagre for complete identification. I have failed to identify three volumes of English books printed before 1640 and owned by the Lehigh University Library in the *Catalogue*, so it is evident that there are a considerable number of omissions. Nevertheless, when all is said and done the *Catalogue* remains a monument to the scholarship of its compilers and they deserve nothing save praise and thanksgiving from us.

I should like now to point out a scheme for using this *Catalogue* to further scholarship in America. For many years American librarians have talked of the difficulty of locating unusual books on this side of the water and of the necessity of some sort of a union catalog. The work that has been done by the Library of Congress (still growing rapidly with the active aid of Dr. E. C. Richardson) in its mammoth Union Card Catalog bids fair to eventuate in the greatest bibliographical catalog in the world. By means of correspondence, copies of a vast number of books can be located for scholars in this country, but in this *Short Title Catalogue* with each of its items serially numbered, we have an opportunity, at relatively small cost in editorial work and printing, to

place in the hands of our librarians and scholars a finding list of inestimable value. Copies of the Bibliographical Society's *Catalogue* should be purchased by as many of our larger college and reference libraries as possible, especially by libraries possessing English books before 1640. This done, some agency or person should assume the editorship of an American Union List of English books before 1640 contained in our libraries. They should then ask libraries containing such books to check the *Short Title Catalogue* and to report their holdings by numbers. The report from each library would read like the sample following, which gives the complete holdings of the Lehigh University Library:

The Lehigh University Library, Bethlehem, Penna., has the following English Books printed before 1640 listed by numbers as given in the *Short Title Catalogue:*

649, 746, 1014, 1079, 1159, 1394, 1395, 1456, 1578, 2913, 3733, 4327, 4497, 4501, 4524, 4615, 4778, 5369, 5590, 6197, 6348, 6859, 7066, 7639, 10681, 10859, 11638, 12148, 12376, 12460, 12626a, 12754, 12997a, 12999, 13191, 13233, 13278, 13314, 13446, 13568, 13872, 13895, 14393, 14402, 14947, 15051, 15251, 15448, 15481, 15491, 15565, 16621, 16807, 16887, 17300, 17331, 17661, 17719, 17936, 18030, 18427, 18855, 18913, 19781, 20030, 20464, 20509, 20536, 20809, 21114, 21603, 21604, 21621, 21906, 22214, 22273, 22274 (2 cops.), 22440, 22550, 22790d, 22863, 22938, 23648, 23699, 23749, 23753, 24669, 25374, 25382.

The following titles possessed by the Lehigh Library have not been identified in the *Short Title Catalogue.*

Bible—New Testament

The Newe Testament of oure Saviour Jesus Christ translated by M. Wil. Tyndall yet once agayne corrected with newe annotacyons very necessary to better onderstondynge, where unto is added an exhortacion to the same of Erasmus Rotero, etc. 1549. (May be one of numbers 2855 or 2856.)

Dix, Henry (Compiler)

A new art of Brachygraphy; or, short-writing by characters . . . composed by Henry Dix. Printed at London for the author, and are to be sold at his shop at the Golden Anchor in Paternoster Row, neere cheapside 1633.

Jackson, John

The Soul is immortall etc. written by John Jackson. Imprinted at London by W. W. for Robert Boulton dwelling in Smithfield neere Long-lane, 1611.

When the reports have been received from all of the co-operating libraries the editor would cumulate them, listing the numbers as given in the *Short Title Catalogue* and designating the libraries holding that number with appropriate symbols for each library, something as follows:

746 HN, LU, Wh.
1014 HN, LU
1079 HN, LU
1159 HN, LU, Wh.

Such a union list could be used, of course, only with the *Short Title Catalogue*, but the comparative ease with which it could be compiled and the small cost involved would justify its compilation and printing. It is a task which the American Library Association, the American Library Institute and the Bibliographical Society of America might well foster. Perhaps the Henry E. Huntington Library might be willing to undertake the work since it already has in its possession much information as to the copies held by American libraries. That the task ought to be undertaken by someone, I believe most librarians will agree, and I trust that some person or agency may be found to undertake it.

HOWARD SEAVOY LEACH, *Librarian, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.*

The New German Check-List of Periodical Holdings

THE first part of a new list of non-German periodicals to be found in German libraries has just appeared entitled: *Gesamtverzeichnis der Ausländischen Zeitschriften* (GAZ) 1914-1924; hrsg. vom Auskunfts-Bureau der Deutschen Bibliotheken. It is published in Berlin by the Preussiche Staatsbibliothek. Part one covers the letters A-Boktryckerei, including 1978 titles; the whole work is to comprise ten parts with thirteen thousand titles. The list of collaborating libraries is to be given in a part soon to appear.

The periodicals are listed by what is taken to be the significant word in the title; society publications appear under the first significant word of the title, not under the name of the society. Place of publication is given, followed by an item that seems to indicate the earliest volume to be found in any collaborating library. As the holdings are arranged chronologically, the purpose of giving this bibliographical item before the holdings is not obvious.

The authors of this work seem to have missed a fine opportunity to make a work that would have a wide sale outside of Germany. If instead of giving the superfluous item showing the earliest holding, they would give the date of volume one, they would make of their publication a bibliography as well as a check-list. As a guide to the location of sets in Germany, the work will, of course, be of great service to students within reach of the German libraries; but as interlibrary loans between German and "for-

eign" libraries are likely to be few, the usefulness of the publication, especially in America, will be mostly as a bibliography supplementing our own *Union List*. If the admirable plan of the American *Union List* were followed in giving always the date of volume one and indicating changes of title, the GAZ might become, without much additional labor or expense, far more valuable both at home and abroad.

WM. STETSON MERRILL,
Head of the Public Service Department, The Newberry Library, Chicago.

The Index to Legislation

Outline of Plans for the Library of Congress Index to Federal and State Legislation

PLANS for the Index to State Legislation to be prepared for publication and sale by the Library of Congress were outlined by H. H. B. Meyer at the joint dinner of the National Association of Law Libraries held at the Hotel King Edward in Toronto on the evening of June 23. The history of the movement for the Index leading up to the enabling acts passed by Congress early this year is described in the report of the joint committee appointed by the National Association of State Libraries, the American Association of Law Libraries, and the Special Libraries Association, to present their petition to Congress that such an index should be authorized.

By Act of Congress approved March 3, 1927, it was enacted that the Librarian of Congress be authorized and directed to have the Index to the Federal Statutes, published in 1908 and known as the Scott and Seaman Index, revised and extended to include the Acts of Congress down to and including the Acts of the Sixty-ninth Congress, and to have the revised index printed at the Government Printing Office. By Act of Congress approved February 10, 1927, it was enacted that the Librarian ofCongress prepare and report to Congress biennially an index to the legislation of the states during the biennium, together with a supplemental digest of the more important legislation of the period. Summing up, as to state legislation, Congress has authorized the index as a permanent biennial publication; as to federal legislation, the Scott and Beaman Index of 1908 to the Federal laws will be revised and extended to March 1927. As to the future federal laws, librarians may resort to the advance "Slip Laws" published by the Superintendent of Documents and to the well-known periodicals of private publishers.

Altho the indexes have been authorized as stated, full completion and publication must wait a few months until the funds necessary ($30,000) are furnished to the Library of Congress. This provision of funds was to have been made in the General Appropriation bills of the last Congress, which bills failed of passage owing to the political contests which absorbed the time of Congress. The failure to enact the appropriation bills will be corrected by the next Congress. Meanwhile, the work is being expedited by the Library of Congress, where the selection of subject headings for the indexing is already under way.

The vast bulk of the material to be indexed was described by Dr. Meyer in his talk at the dinner. In the last Congress, the 69th, there were 23,250 bills and 638 resolutions, a grand total of 23,888 introduced, of which 1422 were enacted into law, the output for the two sessions filling about 2,000 pages. Since most of the states now meet in biennial sessions it is a fair comparison to say that for each biennium the legislative output of the 48 states is 24 times as great. As a matter of fact, for the two years 1923-24 the total number of pages in a complete set of the Session Laws, is about 42,588. This would include the issues for two years for each of the six states (Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina) still having annual sessions. For 1925-26 with Alabama, Colorado and Wisconsin for 1926, and the extra session of Texas for 1926 missing, but including the extra sessions of 1925 for Florida (2), New York, Washington and West Virginia, the total number of acts was 15,012, resolutions 1,312, requiring 32,055 pages to print.

The work of the Legislative Reference Service at the Library of Congress has prepared it for its new burden. Almost from its beginning, in 1917, the Service has been indexing the State Laws on all subjects likely to come under discussion in Congress. The index has been carried out along broad lines in the effort to avoid the hopeless labyrinth which too minute indexing of such a mass of material would entail, but in sufficient minuteness to furnish a key under one alphabet to all general current state legislation within the scope of the interests of the Service. The types of Acts which have been excluded will be somewhat modified in the revision and expansion of the index to meet the new viewpoint. The following tentative rules are under consideration: 1. *Local*. Local laws have hitherto been excluded, with certain exceptions. Named localities should still be excluded, possibly excepting the five or six largest cities. It is probable that henceforth all classes of cities,

counties or villages in a state which has not more than three such classes will be included. Where, as in California, there is a separate class for each county, each class will be dealt with the same as would be a named county. In cases where the state is divided into too many units to include all, but has a broader classification than such as California, index classes one and two will be included. (2). *Temporary.* Acts limited to a definite duration have been excluded unless appearing to be of special interest. While this method necessarily involves too much of the personal equation it should be continued. Information sent in by outsiders familiar with the purpose of the act may modify this rule in certain cases, and such information is solicited by the makers of the index. (3). *Institutions.* All acts applying to a single institution will be excluded. (4). *Private.* All personal legislation including acts applying to a specified corporation or society, is also excluded. (5). *Appropriations.* Appropriation acts, where a sum is appropriated for the year or biennium, have been wholly excluded, and this policy should be continued. (6). *Officers.* Laws prescribing salaries, office organization, etc., have been excluded. From the legislative reference or general research point of view they are of little value, but presumably they will be of value to state bureaus, etc., and should now be included. It is a question whether the better way to handle this type of law is under headings already in use, *e.g.,* number of employes, salaries, and so forth of state board of health under "Public Health," or under a new scheme of administrative headings. The exception made to the rule of exclusion heretofore is in the case of acts which directly affect the subject matter with which they deal. For instance, an act requiring an officer to make monthly reports would not be indexed, while one requiring local health inspectors to inspect meat would be indexed. (7). *Administrative.* Similarly, matter regulating official administration is not indexed except as it affects indexed subjects. (8). *Courts.* Hitherto laws prescribing rules for a superior court, a justice's court, a municipal court, have been excluded. It is the plan now to make a single entry for such acts under "Actions at Law—Specified Courts." Juvenile courts were the previous exception to the rule, appearing under Children.

The list of subject headings to be used in making the index is at present undergoing a thoro revision by Margaret W. Stewart, who has been in charge of the state law index since its beginning, and who will initiate the new work. When completed it will be submittted to Dr. J. P. Chamberlain of the Legislative Drafting Research Fund at Columbia University. Hitherto the few indexers have covered all subjects of sessions laws in turn repeatedly. This method loses the advantage of specialization in subject, and the new index will be developed on the basis of specialized indexing. Each volume will first be examined and the chapters classified as to subject matter and the chapters dealing with a given subject allocated to an indexer especially equipped to handle that subject. This method will necessitate much more checking and verifying than the method at present employed to make sure that no acts are omitted or wrongly allocated, and that the references are correct. To do this is it is imperatively necessary that libraries co-operating in furnishing material to the Index should send no less than three copies of all sessions laws, supplements, and so forth—two to cut up and classify and one for reference. There are apparently almost as many ways of distributing the state laws as there are states and territories. Eleven states apparently have no limit, or are indefinite on the number of copies distributed. Four appear to have no law on the subject. The state of Florida sends twelve to the Secretary of State. The remaining thirty-six send from one to five in various ways, some to the Supreme Court, some to the Secretary of State, some for copyright, but most of them direct to the Library of Congress. These will not be available for the State Law Index excepting under almost prohibitive difficulties, and for this reason the Index must have its own copies and no less than three of them. Studies of certain laws or features of laws will also be invaluable to the Index. All material should be addressed to State Law Index, Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Information concerning current legislation cannot be made available by the Index, nor can examination of the material be permitted unless it will not interfere with the work of the indexers.

Free on Request

Mr. Isaac Sternberger, 1278 New York Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., has a complete file for a number of years of the rotogravure supplements of the Sunday *New York Times.* Forced by ill health to give up his home, he will be glad to give this file to some school or library which would care to have them.

Correction

In locking up the forms of the August LIBRARY JOURNAL the four lines ("Officers elected...") which ought to have been at the foot of the *first* column of p. 758 were inserted at the foot of the *second* column. Will subscribers please make correction in their reference copies?

McGill University Traveling Libraries

An Unusual Development in Library Extension Outlined at the A. L. A. Extension Meeting at Toronto in June

FIVE million, three hundred and ninety-nine thousand, six hundred and eighty-nine people without library service. These figures compiled by the Committee on Library Extension of the A.L.A. seem overwhelming, at least to librarians. How does this compare with other forms of service, motor cars for instance? In some provinces there is one car to every five people, an excellent thing no doubt if the chief end of life were to attain perpetual motion, but if, as the Shorter Catechism teaches us, it is "to glorify God and enjoy him forever," libraries might be of more use in attaining that end. And if these figures seem stupendous today, how much more benighted must have been the conditions twenty or thirty years ago; and was it not indeed a valiant idea to conceive and put into action a plan by which traveling library extension work was begun by McGill University in 1901.

May we be forgiven for being just a little proud that McGill was the first University in Canada, and not only the first university, but the first agency of any kind in Canada, to attempt to grapple with this problem.

The McGill Traveling Library Department is unique in that it is the only one of its kind in Canada which is supported by private endowment, the funds for it being provided by the family whose name the libraries bear: "The McLennan Travelling Libraries."

These little libraries, in the early days, traveled the length and breadth of the Dominion, all the way from Newfoundland to British Columbia, but were only like so many little rush lights burning bravely here and there. Picture to yourselves what it meant to the country to be able to draw upon such a storehouse. Schools, scholars, lumbermen, poets, soldiers and sailors, art students and harassed librarians, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Y.M.C.A.'s and Y.W.C.A.'s and Women's Institutes, and united farmers and others too numerous to mention were supplied.

The libraries contain from thirty to forty volumes, and a set of stereoscopic views and stereoscope and framed pictures if desired.

The fee for each library is $4, all transportation charges being paid for by the University, and books may be kept three or four months. They are educational as befits those sent out by a university, and our one rule, unalterable as that of the Medes and Persians, is that no library shall contain more than half fiction, and the proportion of non-ficion read by our subscribers is most creditable. In the early days we received a letter from the wilds of northern Ontario, saying "I am a telegraph operator. I am all alone here. I made use of one of your libraries in Manitoba. Can you let me have one here?" We did, and we were repaid by hearing from him: "I was sure glad to get it; I am not so lonely now."

As Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia gradually developed their own Traveling Library System, we withdrew from those provinces and concentrated on work nearer home. We are still sending a certain number of libraries to Manitoba, and for a time sent twelve libraries at a time to one place in that province, and ten to another; these numbers now being reduced to two in one case, and five in the other, as they became self-sufficient. We feel that some of our best work is done by supplying traveling libraries to small public libraries such as these, and to all those in the smaller towns in our own province of Quebec, as well as one library in Prince Edward Island, two in Nova Scotia and one in New Brunswick.

Our Traveling Library Department now contains over eleven thousand volumes, from which the libraries are made up, and these are not kept in fixed collections, but are changed to meet the needs of any and every community. Our aim has been to supply only the best in literature, and to foster a taste for good reading and to keep up the standard.

Over six hundred places have been supplied with traveling libraries from McGill; not only towns and villages, but lumber camps and military camps, and one place bearing the suggestive name of Wreck Cove, so impossible to reach that the boxes had to be done up in packages and sent by mail, as no boxes could reach there in winter. The Grenfell Mission now has several of our libraries. It is encouraging to receive letters like the following, which are typical of many. A judge in Nova Scotia, who is one of our oldest subscribers, and who acts as librarian for a club of university men, writes: "The fiction in these libraries is not usually seen here. The books are not on sale, or in the meagre stock in the book stores. We would never, or hardly ever, see some of the great novels of the European countries except in the travelling libraries." From Brandon College the secretary of the English club wrote: "The books have been of great value, for our year's work has

been much better thru our use of them than would otherwise have been possible." One woman writes: "I have kept the books in my personal care and when the time came to pack them away I felt just as tho I was parting with something of my own that I would miss extremely." Our work is now growing in our own province of Quebec, and especially with the various power companies situated in out of the way places. One of these companies has had many libraries, and the secretary says: "Please accept our thanks for the splendid collection of books you sent us. We 'outcasts' appreciate your kindness ever so much."

Within the last few years a new department has been added, that is, the Theological Extension Department. By it, any clergyman can obtain three books at a time on payment of postage both ways, and one some occasions ministerial associations apply for a library of theological books. We hope in time that there may be community libraries formed in this province, which would improve the situation greatly.

Balance, proportion and development have been the three underlying principles in our choice and distribution of books, so that, at any time, our travelling library department could be transformed at a moment's notice into a public library, and, finally, we have endeavored, in every case, to develop the germ of library interest into local libraries.

A statement was made recently that "towns as well as nations somehow manage to get for themselves what they regard as essential." We trust that our own Canadian nation and towns will realize how essential good reading matter is and insistently demand more public libraries, so that the reproach conveyed in that A. L. A. survey can be no longer brought against us. Until that time, and with the hope that we are bringing it near, travelling libraries will try to fill the gap.

World Federation of Education Associations Conference

AS official representative of the A. L. A. Dr. Frank P. Hill attended the conference of the World Federation of Education Associations, held at Toronto, August 7-13. This Federation is made up of associations such as the National Education Association, Canadian Teachers' Federation, Educational Institute of Scotland, National Union of Teachers of England and Wales, Japanese, Chinese, Indian, and other Teachers' Associations, in full membership; and the American Library Association, Women's Educational Union and others in associate membership.

There were present representatives from thirty different countries—three more than at the A. L. A. Atlantic City meeting—and the attendance was said to be about four thousand.

The subjects covered were of great interest and were presented very satisfactorily. The special interest of the A. L. A. was "The international aspect of library service." At the meeting of this Committee there were representatives from Canada, United States, China and Great Britain. The report of the Committee to the Federation recommended:

1. THAT it is desirable that all persons engaged in educational work should have access to all worthy printed material pertaining to educational affairs, including news.

2. THAT the requirements for making such benefits possible include:

(a) A general bibliography of the world's best books on education at present in print;

(b) An annual bibliography of notable books on educational subjects produced in the several countries of the world;

(c) A complete catalog of the educational periodicals of the world, and of institutional and governmental reports and bulletins;

(d) An analytical index to educational periodicals, bulletins, reports, etc., similar to the *International Index to Periodicals;*

(e) A system for the distribution of educational bulletins, and for the exchange of printed documents thru libraries;

(f) A system of placing important educational news before the educational world and the public in general.

3. THAT the World Federation of Educational Associations encourage the fullest development of collections of literature dealing with the international aspects of education, including statistics on schools and libraries, in libraries of teachers' colleges, universities, and of the departments of education of the various countries of the world.

4. THAT the national groups comprising the World Federation of Education Associations send their publications to each of the other national groups.

5. That the wide field and the range of details requiring consideration necessitates the early appointment of a committee to study the field and formulate a program of work to be presented at the next biennial conference; and it is suggested that the Chairman of the Committee on International Relations of the American Library Association, the Director of the China Institute of America, and representatives of other interested groups be included in the membership of this committee.

W. O. CARSON, *Chairman*
JOY E. MORGAN, *Secretary*
FRANK P. HILL, *A. L. A. Rpresentative.*

The Edinburgh Conference

Provisional Program of the Fiftieth Anniversary Conference of the Library Association

Monday, September 26

Registration in front corridor of Conference Hall.

Opening of exhibition in Rainy Hall.

11 a. m.—Meeting of L. A. Council for 1926-27 and of Council for 1927-28.

Visits to places of interest in Edinburgh.

Afternoon

Municipal and County Librarians' Joint Session.

Opening by Lord Elgin.

Municipal and county libraries: A comparison and some suggestions. Edgar Osborne, Derbyshire county librarian.

Experiments in co-operation. John C. Cowley, Lancashire county librarian.

Visits to places of interest in Edinburgh.

Evening

Civic reception by the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh in the Usher Hall.

Tuesday, September 27

Morning

Induction of the President the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine by the retiring president. Introduction of Overseas Visitors. Greetings.

What public libraries are trying to do in Canada. George H. Locke, librarian, Toronto.

The National Library of Scotland. William K. Dickinson, LL.D., librarian.

The Library Association: A record of fifty years. Paper by the Hon. Secretary. [Paper to be printed, circulated, and taken as read.]

Afternoon

General Session

On the teaching of book reading. Maurice Marston, secretary of the National Book Council.

The planning of a great library. Lantern lecture by Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale University.

International Co-operation Section

Council on International Co-operation.

County Librarians Section

Some difficulties and developments in county library work. Paper by S. Faith Fergusson, county librarian, Worcestershire.

The county library: Its place and policy. Paper by Mr. Alfred Ogilvie, Midlothian county librarian.

Evening

The president's address.

A talk on American libraries. Lantern lecture by Carl H. Milam, A. L. A. secretary.

Wednesday, September 28

Morning

Discussion of *Report* of the Departmental Committee on Libraries. Opener: Sir Frederic Kenyon, chairman of the Committee.

The summary of recommendations on pp. 203-214 will be considered paragraph by paragraph excepting par. 40-46 (Central Library for Students) which will be considered on Thursday afternoon.

Afternoon

Lunch of County Librarians' Section. Visit to library of Edinburgh University.

Evening

Reception in Parliament House, Advocates' Library, National Library of Scotland, the Signet Library, and the S. S. C. Library.

Thursday, September 29

Morning

The place of the high school library in a national library service. May Ingles, librarian, High School Library, Omaha.

Methods of Library Extension in Cleveland. Linda A. Eastman, librarian, Cleveland Public Library.

How reading can be encouraged in rural areas. Milton J. Ferguson, California state librarian.

Afternoon

General Session

The Central Library for Students. Paper by Lt-Col. Luxmoore Newcombe, librarian.

The small library made effective. Kate E. Pierce, librarian, Kettering Public Library.

In connection with these two papers par. 40-46 (p. 210-211) of the Departmental Committee's Report will be discussed.

County Librarians Section

[Papers not yet arranged.]

Evening

Annual dinner of the Association.

Friday, September 30

Morning and Afternoon

Excursion to Scott country.

Saturday, October 1

Visit of Overseas Delegates and Members of the Council of the L. A. to Dunfermline by invitation of the Dunfermline Town Council and the Carnegie Dunfermline Trustees.

Overseas Delegates

Australia

Ida Leeson, principal accessions officer, New South Wales P. L.

Belgium

F. Van Kalken, Université Libre de Bruxelles, 14 Rue des Sols, Brussels, and Mme. Kalken.

Canada

George H. Locke, Toronto, ex-president A. L. A.

Zdaněk Václay Tobolka, director of the Library of the Czecho-Slovak Parliament, and son.

Denmark

A. G. Drachmann, University Library, Copenhagen,

Oskar Thyregod, Industrial Library, Copenhagen, and Mrs. Thyregod.

France

(Mlle.) C. Huchet, librarian, l'Heure Joyeuse, 3 Rue Boutebrie, Paris.

Henri Lemaître, Rédacteur en chef de la *Revue des Bibliothèques*, Paris.

Pierre de Lescure, Office Central de Librarie et de Bibliographie, Paris.

Mary Parsons, resident director, Paris School of Librarians.

Germany

Fritz Gottlieb, director of the State Library, Berlin, and president of the Association of German Librarians.

Adolf Jürgens, librarian, Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen Wissenchaft, Berlin.

Hugo Krüss, director general, Prussian State Libraries, and Mrs. Kruss.

Susanne Neukircher, librarian, Stadtische Volksbücherei, Frankfort-on-the-Main.

Holland

(Miss) E. de Clercq, librarian, Openbare Leeszaal, Utrecht.

(Miss) N. Snouck Hurgronje, librarian, Openbare Leeszaal, Dordrecht.

Italy

J. ter Meulen, director, Bibliothèque du Palais de la Paix, The Hague.

Vincenzo Fago, librarian, Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Vittorio Emanuel, Rome.

Vittorio Sigfrido Fago, Rome.

Luigi de Gregori librarian, Biblioteca Casanatense, Rome.

James G. Hodgson, librarian, International Institute Agriculture, Rome.

Norway

William Nunthe, librarian of the State and University Library, Oslo.

Sweden

Dr. Isak Collijn, librarian, Royal Library Stockholm, and Mrs. Collijn.

United States

The name of a municipality directly following that of a delegate indicates that the delegate is connected with the public library of that municipality.

Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of *Libraries*, Chicago.

Harina D. Allen, Grand Rapids.

Mabel A. Babcock, general assistant, Russell Sage Foundation Library.

Mary E. Baker, librarian, University of Tennessee.

A. Mabel Barrow, Brooklyn.

Charles F. D. Belden, Boston.

James Bertram, secretary, Carnegie Corporation.

Margaret Binkley, Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, Md.

W. W. Bishop, Michigan University Librarian, and Mrs. Bishop.

Arthur E. Bostwick, St. Louis.

R. R. Bowker, Editor LIBRARY JOURNAL, and Mrs. Bowker.

Mary P. Colvin, Gilberville, Mass.

Cora M. Decker, Scranton, Pa.

J. Howard Dice, University of Pittsburgh Library.

Anna R. Dougherty, Philadelphia.

Miss Dunn.

Elizabeth Claypool Earl, President, Indiana Library and Historical Dept., State House, Indianapolis.

Linda A. Eastman, Cleveland.

E. F. Eurich, Member of A.L.A.

Frederick W. Faxon, 83 Francis St., Boston, Mass., and Mrs. Faxon.

Milton J. Ferguson, Sacramento, and Mrs. and Miss Ferguson.

Christian Gates, Stamford, Conn.

Wm. D. Goddard, Woburn, Mass.

Fanny Goldstein, Boston, Mass.

Hilda W. Green, Brooklyn.

Winifred Gregory, editor, *Union List of Serials*.

Mary Teresa Haugh, New York.

Mary E. Holland, Manchester, N. H.

May Hopper, Omaha Technical High Schools, Omaha.

Julia A. Hopkins, Brooklyn.

May Horton, Brooklyn.

E. B. Hussey, Library Bureau, New York.

May Ingles, Omaha.

Isabel Jackson, New York.

Andrew Keogh, Yale University.

Dr. Frederic Keppel, Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Sara Jordan Kerns, Chicago.

Bonnie Kniss, Chicago.

Dorothy Kniss, 4246 Sheridan Road, Chicago.

R. Elsa Loeber, Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York.

Lillian J. McMahon, Brooklyn.

H. H. B. Meyer, Library of Congress.

Carl H. Milam, secretary of the A.L.A., and Mrs. Milam.

Anne Carroll Moore, New York.

Edith M. Phelps, secretary of the H. W. Wilson Co., New York.

Caroline A. Pirkins, Philadelphia.

Eleanor A. Pirkner, Brooklyn.

Cora Case Porter, Muskogee.

Ernest Cushing Richadson, consultant in Bibliography and Research, Library of Congress, and Mrs. Richardson.

Etta M. Roberts, Wheeling, W. Va.

Lydia G. Robinson, Chicago.

Sylvia Robinson, Booklyn.

Carl B. Roden, Chicago, and Mrs. and Miss Roden.

Margaret Rohrer, R.F.D. 7, Hagerstown, Md.

Alice L. Rose, 691 W. 191st Street, New York.

M. E. Semler, Washington County Free library, Hagerstown, Md.

Grace Shellenberger, Davenport, and Mrs. D. F. Graham (sister).

H. Mary Spangler, Chambersburg, Pa.

Elizabeth Stuyesant, New York.

George B. Utley, Newberry Library, and Mrs. Utley.

John T. Vance, Library of Congress.

Blanche K. S. Wappat, Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Mary L. Watson, assistant, Newberry Library.

Anna F. Weibersahl, East Orange, N. J.

Elizabeth H. Wesson, Orange, N. J.

Grace Edwards Wesson, Orange, N. J.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH SEPTEMBER 1, 1927

AT Toronto, in August, there was held another conference, world-wide in relation, greatly exceeding in attendance that of the A. L. A. in June. This was the convention of the educational associations thruout the world, combined in an organization of which the A. L. A. is a member. President Roden appointed Frank P. Hill as the A. L. A. delegate, and he reports that the convention was remarkably successful and marked another step forward in the international service of which the library field is but a part, tho an important part. Despite failures of diplomacy and of political conferences, the world is being knit together anew after the rents of war by the work of such associations, not least in bringing together citizens of many countries for mutual understanding and exchange of ideas and good feeling.

THE semi-centenary conference of the British Library Association, at Edinburgh, in the week beginning September 26, will have the attendance of a hundred Americans, more or less, on an occasion which awakes many reminiscences. The new library spirit in America, which resulted in the formation in 1876 of the A. L. A., was communicated to England and the L. A. U. K., or Library Association of the United Kingdom, as it was then called, was organized at the London conference of 1877, fifty years ago, where the registration of 216 included 16 Americans, among them Messrs. Winsor, Poole, Cutter, Dewey and other leaders. The third conference in 1880 was held at Edinburgh, forty-eight years ago, Mr. Bowker being the only American representative present. In 1897, twenty years after the organization, another conference was held in London and a large American delegation, numbering 47, sailed on the *Cephalonia* to land at Liverpool in time to accept the invitation of the Earl of Crawford, vice-chairman of the trustees of the British Museum, for the luncheon at his country place near Wigan, where he had one of the finest private libraries in the United Kingdom. The *Cephalonia* celebrated the Fourth of July by breaking her shaft and, as there was then no wireless, their associates, who had preceded in England the drifting Americans, were in suspense as to their whereabouts. Only seven representatives of the United States and individual librarians from Canada nad Jamaica were present at the luncheon prepared for half a hundred or more, Mr. Lane then president of the A. L. A., fortunately being among them. The conference at London, however, was attended by nearly a hundred and proved truly an international affair, counting five hundred members, with representatives from a number of continental countries.

ANOTHER international gathering was held at the Brussels world fair in 1910, when plans for the hundred years of peace after the Napoleonic wars were in preparation. In 1914 the Buch Exposition brought to Leipsic librarians from many countries, who looked from the wonderful Hall of Culture toward the battle plain where the German and Russian monuments commemorated the union of those countries against Napoleon. Then suddenly came the greatest and saddest of wars which disrupted all international plans. Happily in 1926 in America, and now in 1927 in Britain, librarians of the English-speaking countries are again in touch with their brethren of other tongues and these meetings furnish augury of a true internationalism which will help to make the world one again.

THE international gathering at the Brussels exposition of 1910 was largely the work of the Institut International de Bibliographie, which had its seat in that city, with the support of the national authorities of Belgium. Its great repertory, considerably above ten million *fiches* or cards, suffered cruel neglect during the war years, but it has since recovered and reorganized and now exceeds thirteen million cards. Mr. H. W. Wilson has raised the question, which Dr. E. C. Richardson answers in this issue, as to whether anything really practical has come of this great endeavor. Dr. Richardson shows that collections aggregating more than half a million dollars in value have been accumulated, with no little direct service in the past and with vast potentiality of service for the future. The utilization of its treasures to their full extent is, indeed, a question for the future, but it is a fact that very real service has already been done which justifies the fullest support for the future, and indeed it is hoped that the splendid initiative of MM. Lafontaine and Otlet may tri-

umph in an international result which would not be possible without their labors and the remarkable organization they have built up.

GOVERNOR DOHENEY'S scheme, following his veto of the appropriation for the State Library, of breaking that up into small pieces, has met with as much condemnation thruout the State of Ohio as within the ranks of the library profession. The wholesome interest of Ohio citizens in progressive library work has been shown thru the federated committee representing thirteen farming, patriotic and women's state organizations, thru which a proposal was made to supply the State Library Board by popular subscription with funds to maintain the State Library. The Attorney General has decided that the Board could not administer such funds, that an emergency deficiency appropriation would not be legal and that the distribution of the State Library properties and functions among the Archaeological Society, Ohio State University and the local state colleges was also beyond the law. The impasse seems to be the result of mixed political and personal motives which betrays Ohio again into the slough which in past times has disgraced both Ohio and Pennsylvania. The Library Board has three Democratic and two Republican members, tho the Director of Education who is a Democrat refuses in some respects to obey the Governor's behests. The Board discharged Mr. Hirshberg and appointed to succeed him in an office which has been abolished by veto of the salary, C. P. Galbreath, the stormy petrel of Ohio library politics who used to alternate in that post with John Henry Newman and who now holds the office of secretary and therefore librarian of the State Archaeological and Historical Society.

AT last Sabin is *redivivus*. More than sixty years ago Joseph Sabin the elder was collecting the material for his great *Dictionary of Books Relating to America*, of which he published the first part of his first volume in 1868. In those days there walked into his office a young man, Wilberforce Eames by name, who asked if he could not help Mr. Sabin in a work which interested him greatly. Young Eames became a mainstay of Mr. Sabin as his volunteer helper and on Mr. Sabin's death, in 1881, when Part 81-2 had been published, Mr. Eames became the Elisha to Mr. Sabin's Elijah and carried the work on from part 83-4 (in 1884) until Part 115-16 was published in 1892. Of these early issues an edition of five hundred was printed in the ordinary size, besides an additional one hundred on large paper. But it has been most difficult to learn the present location of the greater number of these copies. The veteran Eames persevered in editing into first shape the material which had been collected thru the alphabet but funds were not available to continue the work of publication, which had stopped just where Captain John Smith blocked the way, and various endeavors to resume publication came to nothing.

IN 1924 another effort was initiated thru the LIBRARY JOURNAL toward the completion of this monumental work, as well as the complementary Evans bibliography and Joseph Sabin 2d gave his wholehearted co-operation. He promised a $500 subscription toward the fund, which, in preparing his will, he made a bequest, available and paid over in 1926, when Mr. Sabin died, unfortunately without seeing the fruits of this new effort. An A. L. A. Committee was formed to promote the completion of Sabin and Evans, which committee was divided into two parts for the respective publications. Dr. Koch, on the Evans committee, was so successful in obtaining subscriptions for the copies in stock of the earlier volumes as to make it possible for Mr. Evans to resume his work and publish his ninth volume in 1926, one of the publications of the semi-centenary year. The Carnegie Corporation agreed on an appropriation of $7500 as a revolving fund, with the understanding that the A. L. A. should be relieved of the responsibility, which was taken over by the Bibliographical Society of America. It was not possible to issue the first of the new parts in the semi-centenary year, as had been hoped, but August 1927 has seen the first fruits of the new effort in the actual publication of part 117-18 in which Captain John Smith is safely laid away bibliographically, tho the Smith family continues into the succeeding part, now well under way. Mr. Lydenberg and his colleagues on the new committee, that of the Bibliographical Society, are to be congratulated on pushing forward the work while Mr. Eames is still able to give direction. And now it remains for American libraries to back them with support by prompt and liberal subscriptions for the remaining issues. It is estimated that besides parts 119-20 to complete volume 20 which has waited a third of a century for completion, there will be several more volumes of three double parts each, completing the work in twenty-five or more volumes. Service will be done not only by making subscriptions for the work, but by informing the committee where unreported copies of the earlier volumes, in sets or individual issues of volumes or parts, are to be found, as many libraries hesitate to subscribe for the later volumes, valuable as they are, unless they can complete sets in advance by purchase of the earlier volumes.

Library Book Outlook

THE turn of the book-publishing season finds us with a goodly number of new book titles deserving consideration.

In Travel there are *Two Vagabonds in Albania*, by Jan and Cora Gordon (914.96, Dodd-Mead, $5), another typical Gordon book, with illustrations by the authors; *Excursions and Some Adventures*, by Etta Close (910, Dial Press, $4), being memories of travel in Europe, Asia, and Africa; *Mornings in Mexico*, by D. H. Lawrence (917.2, Knopf, $2.50), presenting pictures of Mexican life, in a series of informal essays; and *The Polar Regions*, by R. N. Rudmose Brown (919.8, Dutton, $3.75), a physical and economic geography of the Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Biography includes *Sir Francis Drake*, by E. F. Benson (Harper, $4), a new account of the life and exploits of the famous English buccaneer; *Experiences of a Literary Man*, by Stephen L. Gwynn (Holt, $4), who wrote for English journals and became acquainted with the foremost literary figures of the Victorian Age; *Down the Fairway*, by Robert T. Jones (Minton-Balch, $3.50), the autobiography of "Bobby" Jones, the young golf-champion; and *We*, by Charles A. Lindbergh (Putnam, $2.50), previously announced.

Historical and sociological topics of interest are treated in *The Crisis in China*, by Percy T. Etherton (951, Little-Brown, $3.50), the author of which was late judge of the British Supreme Court in China; *Farm Income and Farm Life*, by Dwight Sanderson and others (630, Univ. of Chicago Pr., $3), a symposium prepared for the American Country Life Association; *Prohibition: Modification of the Volstead Law*, by Lamar T. Beman (178, Wilson, 90c), in the "Reference Shelf" series, forming a supplement to the volume *Prohibition* in the "Handbook" series, and containing only the later material, in both bibliography and reprints; and *Religious Teaching in the Public Schools*, by Lamar T. Beman (377, Wilson 90c), likewise in the "Reference Shelf" series, with reprints of selected articles and a selected bibliography, together with a brief.

Copper Sun, by Countee Cullen (811, Harper, $2), contains more poems by the Negro author of *Color*.

Open House, by J. B. Priestley (824, Harper, $2.50), is a new volume of essays on modern life.

Literary studies are offered in *Shakespeare—Actor-poet*, by the Comtesse de Chambrun (822.3, Appleton, $3), which in the original was awarded the Bordin Prize by the French Academy; *Thomas Carlyle*, by Mary Agnes Hamilton (820, Holt, $2.50), an interpretive study, relating Carlyle's message to modern society; and *More Contemporary Americans*, by Percy H. Boynton (810.1, Univ. of Chicago Pr., $2.50), containing four general essays, together with specific criticisms of Herman Melville, Lafcadio Hearn, Ambrose Bierce, Joseph Hergesheimer, Sherwood Anderson, and others.

Miscellaneous non-fiction of interest includes *Socrates, or the Emancipation of Mankind*, by H. F. Carlill (151, Dutton, $1), in the "To-day and To-morrow" series, telling how man can direct his life by reasoning rather than by blind instinct; *Science—Leading and Misleading*, by Arthur Lynch (501, Dutton, $3); *Primitive Hearths in the Pyrenees*, by Ruth Otis Sawtell (571, Appleton, $3), an account of a summer's exploration in the haunts of prehistoric man; *Import Purchasing: Principles and Problems*, by George B. Roorbach (659, Shaw, $5); *Book Reviewing*, by Wayne Gard (070, Knopf, $2), a contribution to this special phase of journalism; *Yachting and Yachtsmen*, by W. Dodgson Bowman (797, Dodd-Mead, $4), recounting the history and gradual development of yachting; and the index volume to Hastings' *Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics* (203, Scribner, $8).

The new fiction ranges thru H. G. Wells's *Meanwhile* (Doran, $2.50), which treats of perplexing modern problems of love and marriage; Louis Bromfield's *A Good Woman* (Stokes, $2.50), the story of a woman who was "always right," but who lacked understanding; John Buchan's *Witch Wood* (Houghton Mifflin, $2.50), an exciting romance of Scotland in the days of the Covenanters; E. Phillips Oppenheim's *Miss Brown of X. Y. O.* (Little-Brown, $2), in which a London typist becomes involved in an exciting intrigue; Harold Bell Wright's *God and the Groceryman* (Appleton, $2), showing the need for religion in the world to-day; Kathleen Norris's *Barberry Bush* (Doubleday-Page, $2); Charles G. Norris's *Zelda Marsh* (Dutton, $2.50), a long story of a girl who falls in love several times before she becomes a theatrical star; L. M. Montgomery's *Emily's Quest* (Stokes, $2), a new "Emily" story; George Barr McCutcheon's *The Inn of the Hawk and the Raven* (Dodd-Mead, $2), a new tale of old Graustark; and Jackson Gregory's *Captain Cavalier* (Scribner, $2), a romance of California in the days of the conquistadors.

LOUIS N. FEIPEL.

Library Work

Notes of Development in all Branches of Library Activity Particularly as Shown in Current Library Literature

To Remove Book Labels

BY the method used at the Abbot Academy Library at Andover, old book labels come off so easily, writes Dorothy Hopkins, librarian, in the June *Massachusetts Library Club Bulletin*, that our method may interest other librarians. "Credit for the idea is due to a former janitor of the Radcliffe College Library. Over each label is put a paste made of powdered asbestos and water. After a short interval the paste is removed and put back into its dish, and the moistened label leaves the book without a protest. The book suffers in no way. Any residue can be washed away, and the asbestos can be used over and over again for years."

A Legible Charging System

LEGIBLE entry of date and borrower's number by mechanical means as opposed to the blurred impression of a rubber stamp too long in use and the hasty pencilling of a busy assistant at the charging desk, constitute the chief advantage of the use of a book charging system selected by the U. S. Efficiency Bureau for installation in the Washington (D.C.) Public Library. This system, which has had some six months' test in Washington, and was shown at the Toronto A. L. A. Conference in June, consists of the Dickman Book Charger (the machine); a metal plate containing the borrower's number; the borrower's card, with metal number plate attached; a metal date plate; a book card, identical with the one now in use; and a date card which replaces the present date slip and remains in the book pocket. The date is set in the machine each morning. When books are charged, the borrower's number plate, which is kept in a fold at the top of the borrower's card, is placed in the machine, and the book card is stamped at the same time and in the same operation with the borrower's number plate. The borrower's number plate is then removed from the machine, and the date is stamped on the borrower's card. In place of the present date slip, a date card is kept in the book pocket at all times. This date card is stamped at the same time as the book card, and not only is more legible and accurate, but contains the borrower's number and entirely removes the possibility of confusion in checking or tracing borrowed books. The operation of the system is equally simple when books are returned. The date is set once a day and the borrower's card is stamped for each book returned. Out of 90,000 cards placed in books at the Washington Public Library to date none has been reported lost or missing. The mechanical stamping of the borrower's number from his own number plate forestalls the common argument that lost books were not drawn by him.

The Objectives of a University Library

CONTENT, assembling and organizing, service, staff, and housing for preservation and service are the five main objectives of a university library discussed in detail by William E. Henry, librarian of the University of Washington since 1906, in his pamphlet *Five Objectives of a University Library* (Seattle: The University, pap. 23p.). Mr. Henry's conclusions have been reached after forty years of service in educational institutions, precisely thirty years of which had been given to administrative libraries, when he wrote his foreword on April 1, 1927.

The content of a great university library should comprise as much of the human record as can be used for either of the two distinct but related ends (undergraduate and graduate) in institutional or academic education. This means a large, expensive, and highly organized collection. No educational institution has a claim or right to usurp the name of university, nor to establish a graduate school, if it has not accumulated or is not rapidly securing such an organized collection, a great library. Secondly, the material must be so organized that those in charge of library equipment shall know the specific location of each item and shall be able to produce it for use on call in the shortest time consistent with a comprehensive collection in a spacious building. There follows the third objective, distribution for service, which should be so devised that any book that may leave the building may be delivered into the hands of a professor or graduate student almost instantly upon telephone call and returned to the library by the same process when it shall have served the borrower.

The staff, the fourth objective, is the most important next to the book equipment itself. It is divided into two groups, the organizing group, who organize human experience into a closely and logically related whole or series of related

units as an architect organizes building materials into a unified building. These are not designated to the world as scholars, yet that is their distinctive characteristic. They are scholars in definite lines, usually more general in their grasp than the faculty, but none the less definite and accurate, altho less likely to be producers either as speakers or writers on a specific subject. The second group of the staff yet to be developed is an organized group of reference or service librarians, a battery of research helpers. It is unfair to expect one or two reference librarians to know well the bibliography of all the subjects that make up the curriculum of a university.

Frequency of Inventory

A GENERAL trend away from complete annual inventories as the increasing size of the collection increases the difficulties of the process is indicated by the replies received by the A. L. A. and summarized in the fourth volume of *A Survey of Libraries in the United States*. Biennial inventories and inventory of special sections have taken their place. The majority of small libraries continue the annual overhauling, seventy per cent of the libraries of less than 20,000 volumes reporting to the A. L. A. indicating that this is their practice. Two large libraries maintain a continuous inventory. At the John Crerar Library in Chicago inventory is now taken continuously by two members of the staff, averaging about two hours a day, at which rate the inventory of the entire library will take about four years. In the Reference Department of the New York Public Library inventory is being taken continuously by a special inventory staff, under the supervision of the chief of stacks, and is completed once every four or five years. A few libraries have definitely and deliberately abandoned the inventory. The University of Pennsylvania considers that the cost is not justified by results. When a book is missing, the fact is reported to a member of the shelf and stack department, whose chief business is searching. If the missing volume is not found and it is urgently needed, another copy is bought or borrowed. If the need is not urgent, the title goes on the "missing list," and remains there (being searched for now and then) for fifteen months. If it is not found then, it is considered lost, and the cards are removed from the catalog unless decision is made to replace the book. In the Bridgeport (Conn.) Public Library annual inventory is taken at the branches, but there has been no inventory at the central library since 1918, when reclassification and recataloging, which include automatically a gradual inventory, were begun. Some doubt is expressed as to the value of inventories in a large collection, on the ground that if a lost or misplaced book is not missed, this is an indication that it is not needed.

Large public libraries taking a complete inventory annually include Boston, Grand Rapids, Jersey City, the branch libraries of the circulation department in New York, Rochester, San Francisco, Syracuse, and Washington, which last, however, no longer takes inventory of the children's collection. Among the colleges, annual inventories are taken at Colgate (except in the class Religion, which is now inventoried only every two years), Cornell (done continuously thru the year), Haverford, the University of Maine, University of Minnesota, with some unimportant exceptions, Pennsylvania State College, Radcliffe, the University of Washington, and Wesleyan. At Brown University inventory was formerly taken every year, but is now taken for the general collections only every second or third year. At the University of Montana the annual inventory has recently been abandoned, except for the departmental libraries, and the general collections are now inventoried only every third year. At the University of California complete inventory is still taken every year, but spreading it over three years is now under consideration.

Biennial inventories are taken at the University of Oregon and the Oregon State Agricultural College, and the public libraries of Davenport, Knoxville, Long Beach (Calif.), Sacramento, Salt Lake City, and Tacoma. In Seattle inventory is taken at the branches every two years, and at the central library about every five years. Several others complete an inventory every two years, taking certain classes one year and others the next.

Infrequent inventories are reported by Atlanta (from two to four years apart), and by Detroit and Louisville (from three to five years apart). Berkeley reports that its first inventory in more than ten years was taken in 1925. Inventories at irregular intervals are reported by Dayton, Gary, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and St. Paul, among the public libraries, and by the University of Missouri, Princeton, the State College of Washington, and Yale. Minneapolis takes annual inventories of the branch collections, but at the central library only on decision of the librarian.

In several libraries a "book census" is taken more frequently than a complete inventory. A census consists merely of a count of the books, in each class, that can be found on the shelves or can be accounted for in the circulation records or elsewhere. The census thus reveals the number of books that can be accounted for, and therefore, by subtraction from the statistics of the accession records, the

number of books that are missing. It does not, of course, show what books are missing. A full description of a book census which was taken in the St. Louis Public Library in 1917, in which nearly half a million volumes were counted in about four hours, is given in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, 42: 369-371.

Insurance for Libraries

FEWER libraries than might be expected carry insurance, acting on the theory, as in Rochester, New York, that the possible occasional loss of a building would cost less than the amount that would have to be paid annually if all buildings were insured. Other libraries that reported to the A. L. A. Survey (as recorded in the fourth volume of the *Survey*) that no insurance is carried include Brockton, Mass., Omaha, Queens Borough, N. Y., San Francisco, and Washington. In Boston the city carries no insurance on any of its property, and no insurance is carried by the library on any of the library buildings or their contents. In Detroit no insurance is carried, the understanding with the city being that nothing but fireproof buildings will be erected for libraries, and the risk of loss is assumed by the city. The federal government carries no insurance on any government buildings. In Seattle all fire insurance policies were cancelled several years ago on the recommendation of a firm of efficiency experts.

Very little definite information was secured from the replies to the Survey concerning the basis of valuation of books for insurance purposes and the method of arriving at the value of the book collection, and whether depreciation is charged off from the cost price of the books. Reports concerning the basis of valuation range from sixty to one hundred per cent of the cost price of the books. Some report that the actual cost price is taken, and insurance is carried up to a certain percentage of the total value. Many libraries estimate the value of the books at a certain amount per volume. These estimates vary from fifty cents to three dollars a volume, or to larger amounts for certain classes. Some make estimates separately for different classes, for example one dollar a volume for fiction and juvenile books, two dollars for ordinary non-fiction, and three dollars for periodicals and reference books. The Berkeley (Calif.) Public Library values books of special value shelved in the closed section at four dollars a volume based on an actual physical count. At the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library books at branches purchased from city appropriations are not insured. Books belonging to the Brooklyn Public Library corporation, consisting of the original Brooklyn Public Library collection augmented by purchase from private funds or bequests, are insured. Of these books some of the most valuable, which are listed by title in the policies, are insured for their full value; all others are lumped together at a "salvage" rate of one dollar a volume.

A fund for self-insurance is being accumulated at the Cleveland (Ohio) Public Library. It was begun with the appropriation of $25,000 by the library, which pays into it each year the amount previously paid for regular insurance. The fund has now grown to over $100,000, and it can grow by its own interest hereafter, if necessary, until it reaches about $200,000. Thereafter, unless needed to replace damage by fire, the interest on this fund can be used for other library purposes.

Books in the main collection of the Denver (Colo.) Public Library are insured at a low valuation of fifty cents a volume because the building is fireproof and is located in the civic center, with no other buildings near. In branches where the fire hazard is greater, the valuation is one dollar a volume on the books, and the buildings are valued at the original construction cost. No estimate is made for depreciation on the value of the books, nor is insurance added to cover the growth of the library each year.

The Open Round Table

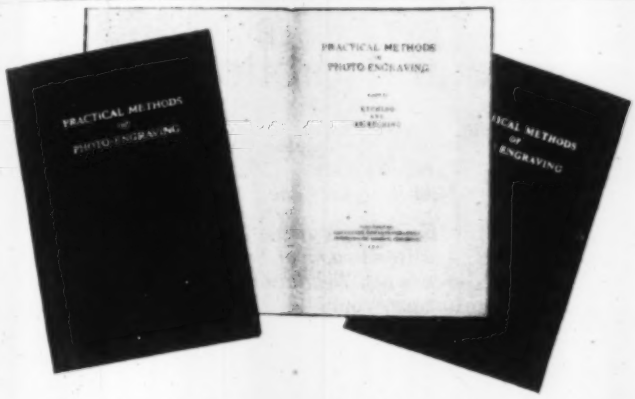
"Library Promotion"

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

The last Adult Education pamphlet of the A. L. A. moves me to suggest, once more, that the many thousands spent recently at Headquarters in exploiting the unimportant minutiae of library method, and in devising checks and obstacles to changes, developments and improvements in the education of would-be librarians, could have been much better spent in making more generally known two facts: one, that there are public libraries, library commissions, etc., two, that librarians are all glad to have opportunities to help readers. If the newspapers of Pennsylvania had been well informed on these facts—as they could have been with a very small part of the thousands spent on a useless "Survey"—the rural inquirer in Pennsylvania would have written for helps in reading to his own State Library or to the nearest public library instead of to the Headquarters at Chicago.

Has not headquarters now spent enough money on flapdoodle and piffle? If it has any left for "Library Promotion," why not use it for that purpose instead of spending it on the exaltation of a few committees on inutilities?

JOHN COTTON DANA, *Librarian,*
Public Library of Newark, N. J.



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Current Literature and Bibliography

A new edition of the Cambridge University Library *Rules for the Catalogues of Printed Books, Maps and Music* (New York: Macmillan, pap., 78p.) is based, as were previous editions, on the set of rules drawn up by Henry Bradshaw in 1878, and on the *A.L.A. Catalog Rules, the British Museum Rules for Compiling the Catalogues of Printed Books*, the *Bodleian Library Staff Manual*, and C. A. Cutter's *Rules for a Dictionary Catalog*, according to A. F. Scholfield, university librarian, in his prefatory note. The pamphlet is printed on one side of the page only, is fully indexed, and has a list of reference books indispensable to a cataloger's working library.

After many unavoidable delays Vol. XIX (1325) parts 1 and 2 of the *Papers* of the Bibliographical Society of America, has now appeared. Reports of the Seattle meeting of July 1925, and of the meetings at Ann Arbor in December 1925 and Chicago, January 1926, are given and the following signed papers: "Early Printers' and Publishers' Devices," by Frank T. Schlechter; "A Guide to Historical Literature" (report of progress with a footnote bringing the information down to June of this year) by George M. Dutcher; "A List of Newspapers Published in the District of Columbia, 1820-1850," by Yale O. Millington; the Cavagna Library at the University of Illinois by Meta M Sexton, and "The Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations and Bibliography" (review) by C. K. Jones.

Business Books: 1920-26, compiled at the Business Branch of the Newark (N. J.) Public Library and published by the H. W. Wilson Co., supplements *2400 Business Books and Guide to Business Literature*, published in October 1920.

"So great has been the increase in production of such material that this output of the past seven years bulks larger than did all similar material handled by the library pervious to 1920" and the supplement's 2600 items bring the total number of items close to the five thousand mark, while the 2106 new subjects and and their subdivisions in the supplement raise the total of subjects headings to over 4100.

The book was compiled by Linda H. Morley, until recently librarian of the Business Branch, and Adelaide C. Knight, her assistant (now librarian and associate librarian respectively of the International Relations Counselors, Inc., New York), and the final preparation of the manuscript is the work of Marie L. Prevost, head of the catalog department of the Newark Public Library. (592 p. buck. $7.50; or with *2400 Business Books*, $11.)

Bulletin 58 of the National Research Council is a *Hand-book of Scientific and Technical Societies and Institutions of the United States and Canada*, compiled (American Section) by Clarence J. West and Callie Hull, and (Canadian Section) by the National Research Council of Canada. The purpose of the publication (which is necessarily incomplete) is "to present a ready guide to those scientific and learned societies, associations and institutions . . . which contribute to knowledge or further research thru their activities, publications or funds," these requirements being rather broadly interpreted. Organizations controlled by universities or colleges have been excluded as these are to be covered by a forthcoming publication of the American Council on Education *American Universities and Colleges*, and "only those" government institutions are included which administer private funds."

About 780 institutions are listed as the result of a questionnaire sent to 1500, and for each of these information is given regarding: Address, history, object, membership, meetings, laboratory, library, research funds and other awards, and publications.

A *Census of British Newspapers and Periodicals, 1620-1800*, compiled by Ronald S. Crane of the University of Chicago and Frederick B. Kaye of Northwestern University with the assistance of M. S. Prior, and published by the University of North Carolina Press (London: Cambridge Univ. Press), is a two-fold bibliography, "containing a detailed finding list of the precise holdings of the leading American libraries and a list of British periodicals apparently not found in these libraries."

All recognized types of periodicals—newspapers, magazines, reviews, essay sheets in the *Spectator* tradition, annuals, etc.—are included, as are Scotch, Irish and Welsh as well as English publications, the *Census* aiming at a completeness far beyond that of the *Tercentenary Handlist*, "which omits Scotch and Irish periodicals and limits itself to holdings in certain British libraries," and at a convenience in use beyond that of the *Union List of Serials* which "because of its vast scope and its lack of any chronological arrangement is not very convenient for the student of a special period."

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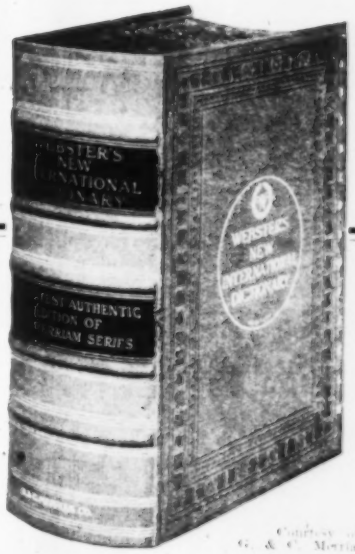

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Among Librarians

Mildred Albert, librarian of the Public Library, Thorp, Wis., has resigned to become librarian of the Public Library, Eldora, Iowa.

Dorothy Baker, 1923 Washington, circulation librarian of the University of Washington Library, who recently returned from an extended vacation in Australia and New Zealand, has resigned to be married October 1.

Harold F. Brigham, 1922 New York Public, staff assistant of the curriculum study being made by the A. L. A. in co-operation with the University of Chicago, and formerly librarian of the New Brunswick (N. J.) Public Library, becomes librarian of the Carnegie Library of Nashville, Tenn., on October 1, in succession to the late Gideon H. Baskette.

M. Ethel Bubb, for the past eight years director of work with schools in the Public Library of the District of Columbia, has been transferred to the new position of assistant director of work with children.

Mildred Chutter, 1920 New York State, appointed assistant cataloger at Ohio University, to begin work in September.

Olive Bertha Counts, 1927 Atlanta, appointed librarian at the State Teachers' College, Farmville, Virginia.

Norma Cuthbert, 1925 Los Angeles, has resigned her position as research assistant in the Lasky Studio Library to become assistant in the manuscript division of the Huntington Library.

Mary E. Foley appointed head of the extension department, Des Moines Public Library.

Sarah Greer, librarian of the National Institute of Public Administration, New York, is the winner of the hundred dollar prize offered by the Macmillan Company for the best name "for a series of scholarly yet reasonable books designed to fill a need in adult education." The winning title, "The World To-day Bookshelf," was one of a thousand suggested by librarians in the United States, Canada, and England.

Anne Hall, 1911 Pittsburgh, children's librarian of the University branch, Seattle Public Library, has been transferred to the new Alexander Hamilton Intermediate School as librarian. The Seattle Public Library has agreed to supply the librarian and the books, and to conduct this library as a demonstration library during a period of two years.

Sara Virginia Lewis, 1911 Wis., has been granted a year's leave of absence from the Seattle Public Library. Mary N. Baker, 1911 N. Y. S., has been appointed acting superintendent of circulation during her absence.

Janie Beall McClure, 1925 Atlanta, formerly children's librarian in the Savannah Public Library appointed head of children's work in the public library, Birmingham, Ala.

Sarah Harris MacDonald, 1924 Atlanta, formerly librarian, State Teachers' College, Farmville, is assistant in the cataloging department, Emory University Library, Atlanta.

Eunice K. MacGreane, librarian of the New Richmond Public Library, resigned in June to accept a position on the staff of the Eau Claire Public Library. She is succeeded at New Richmond by Merle Ingli.

Hilda Marsh, 1924 Los Angeles, appointed assistant in the library of the University of Southern California.

Anastasia Meeks, 1926 Washington, who has been filling a temporary position in the office of the librarian at the University of Washington, has a position in the circulation department of the University of Washington library.

Ethel Miller, 1925 Washington, of the Longview Public Library, has now a position as librarian in the Seattle high school system.

Maud Moseley, 1924 Washington, assistant in the acquisitions division, University of Washington Library, appointed to cataloging position in the Library of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Celeste Slauson, 1925 Washington, assistant, schools division of the Seattle Public Library, has been appointed by the School Board as librarian of the new John Marshall Intermediate School in Seattle.

Forrest B. Spaulding, 1913 New York Public, who has been consulting librarian and editor of publications for Gaylord Brothers, Syracuse, N. Y., since 1922 is to return to Des Moines, Ia., to the post he held 1917-19, namely the librarianship of the Public Library there. In 1919 Mr. Spaulding joined the A. L. A. in its post-war work, taking charge in 1920 of the A. L. A. merchant marine department, and he spent 1921 in Peru, as director of the school libraries of that republic.

Mrs. Nancy B. Thomas, librarian at Escanaba, Mich., appointed librarian of the Public Library, Birmingham, Mich., which is to have a new building.

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Chloe Thompson, 1927 Washington, appointed circulation librarian of the University of Washington Library, to succeed Dorothy Baker.

Nell A. Unger, 1918 Washington, superintendent of school libraries, New York State Education Department, has been appointed librarian of Reed College Library, Portland, Ore.

Florence M. Waller, 1918 N. Y. S., has returned to her position as technology librarian in the Seattle Public Library after a trip abroad and six months' experience in the technology department of the Cleveland Public Library.

Mrs. Mary J. Wheeler, mother of Harold L. Wheeler, librarian at Muskegon, and Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian at Baltimore, died in Bridgewater, Mass., July 18. The youngest of her five sons, Hermon F., is treasurer of the Library Board in the home town. From this same town came three other librarians; Lloyd W. Josselyn, of Jacksonville, Birmingham and Buffalo, and Clara Josselyn, children's librarian in Jacksonville and Los Angeles, and Abbie F. Gammons, formerly of the Detroit Public Library, catalog Department and now chief cataloger at Goucher College. All of these became first interested in library work thru the devoted work of Lucia L. Christian, for many years librarian at Bridgewater, well known in the Massachusetts Library Club, and now librarian emeritus.

Asa Wynkoop, a graduate of the class of 1887 of Rutgers University, has been given the honory degree of Doctor of Library Science by that university, in recognition of his services to the library profession. Dr. Wynkoop who has been for over twenty years director of the library extension work of the University of the State of New York, and editor of *New York Libraries* since its foundation in 1907, is president this year of the New York State Library Association.

Recent appointments of members of the class of 1927 of the University of Washington Library School to positions in the Seattle Public Library have been made as follows: Marvel Bereiter, assistant in the Branch Department; Josephine Campbell, assistant in the Circulation Department; Lois Davis, assistant in the central children's room; Hilda Dobrin, assistant in the Branch Department; Drusilla Dorland, assistant in the circulation department; Katherine Graves, assistant in the central children's room; Lorene Hinman, assistant in the branch department; Amy Van Horn, assistant, branch department; and Natalie Notkin, in charge of the foreign division.

Additional appointments of graduates of the Wisconsin School are: Ethel Malec begins her appointment as assistant in the Normal School Library, Stevens Point, on September nineteen; Anne Martin goes to the Public Library, Cloquet, Minn., as school librarian; Martha B. Merrell becomes reference librarian of the Oshkosh Public Library; Myrl Poland is cataloging the children's books in the Indiana Harbor Branch of the Public Library, East Chicago, Ind., during the summer.

Appointments of the Simmons College Class of 1927 not previously reported are as follows: Jeanette Bowen, cataloger, Indiana State University, Bloomington, Ind.; Helen Eaton, cataloger, Bridgeport (Conn.) Public Library; Agnes Flanagan, cataloger, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa; Mary A. Funk, assistant librarian, Keystone State Teachers College, Kutztown, Pa.; Elsie Grob, cataloger, Lynn (Mass.) Public Library; Irene H. Robinson, assistant, Central State Normal School, Lock Haven, Pa.

University of California School of Librarianship graduates have been appointed as follows: Dorothy Alvord, assistant librarian, State Teachers College, Ellensburg, Wash.; Amy F. Blumann, assistant, School of Librarianship, University of California, Berkeley; Carol R. Cox, catalog department, Stanislaus County Free Library, Modesto, Calif.; Frances B. Dabney, Statistical Department, Schwabacher-Frey Stationery Company, San Francisco; Margaret B. Davis, reference librarian, University of Arizona Library, Tucson; Florinell Francis, catalog department, North Texas State Teachers College, Arlington, Texas; Ida A. Fuller, assistant, University of Nevada Library, Reno; Isabel H. Jackson, assistant, Chamber of Commerce, San Francisco; Philip O. Keeney, in charge of graduate reading room, History and Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Ruth Kinell, cataloger, State Teachers College, Fresno, California; Dorothy V. McManis, librarian, Training School, University of California at Los Angeles; Magdalena E. Michel, librarian, Mission High School, San Francisco; Beryl A. Moore, catalog department, University of California at Los Angeles; Cora L. Painter, librarian, Galileo High School, San Francisco; Leigh S. Pearce, elementary school librarian, department of libraries, Long Beach City Schools, Long Beach, Calif.; Mariel M. Rushmore, catalog department, University of California Library, Berkeley; Harriet Schneider, assistant librarian, West Berkeley Branch, Berkeley (Calif.) Public Library; Virginia E. Sexton, assistant, College of Agriculture, University of California, Davis, Calif.; Frances H. Sosso, first assistant, San Luis Obispo County Free Library, San Luis Obispo, Calif.; Ruth N. Turner, assistant librarian, *San Francisco Chronicle*, San Francisco.

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Graduates of the class of 1927 of the Los Angeles Library School have been appointed as follows: Lucile Berggren, assistant, Lincoln Heights Branch, Los Angeles Public Library; Gertrude Bergman, branches department, Los Angeles Public Library; Irmadean Bowen, children's librarian, Minneapolis Public Library; Muriel Bowler, children's librarian, Los Angeles Public Library; Vivien Bulloch, cataloger, Fresno Co. Free Library; Geneva Butler, librarian, Baker (Ore.) Public Library; Miriam Cassidy, branches department, Los Angles Public Library; Prudence Clodfelter, cataloger, Los Angeles Public Library; Margaret Church, children's librarian, Minneapolis Public Library; Ruby De Klotz, City school library, Los Angeles; Rowena Drake, children's librarian, Los Angeles Public Library; Evangeline Fischer, assistant, Pasadena Public Library; Mary Fleck, high school librarian, Minneapolis; Helen Fuller, children's librarian, Long Beach Public Library; Doris Gates, children's librarian, Fresno Co. Free Library; Ruby Hay, foreign book department, Los Angeles Public Library; Thelma Hopper, children's librarian, Kauai Co. Free Library, Lihue, T. H.; Marion Lawrence, assistant, Deschutes Co. Free Library, Bend, Ore.; Mary Long, assistant, circulation department, Public Library, Bakersfield; Alice McCarthy, children's librarian, Hollywood Branch, Los Angeles Public Library; Marguerite Marks, cataloger, Los Angeles Public Library; Elizabeth Matson, assistant, school and teachers department, Los Angeles Public Library; Bertha Neher, children's librarian, John Muir Branch, Los Angeles Public Library; Mary Phippeny, cataloger, Los Angeles Public Library; Helena Richardson, assistant, Municipal Reference Library, Los Angeles; Nell Steinmetz, children's librarian, Los Angeles Public Library.

Calendar

Sept. 8-10. At Nantucket. Massachusetts Library Club. Headquarters at the Sea Cliff Inn.

Sept. 15-17. At Dickinson. North Dakota Library Association.

Sept. 26-Oct. 1. At the Lake Placid Club, Essex County, N. Y. New York Library Association.

Sept. 29-30. At Waterville. Maine Library Association.

Oct. 10-12. At Lewistown. Montana Library Association.

Oct. 11-13. At Columbus. Ohio Library Association (tentative date).

Oct. 12-15. At the Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg. Pennsylvania Library Association's annual conference.

Oct. 13-14. At Lincoln. Nebraska Library Association's annual conference, which will be preceded by a library institute, conducted by Miss Nellie Williams, secretary of the State Commission, Oct. 11-12.

Oct. 13-15. At Columbia. Missouri Library Association.

Oct. 13-15. At Jackson. Michigan Library Association.

Oct. 15. Informal meeting of the Hawaii Library Association. Election of officers and other business for the year will take place in the middle of March, 1928, at the Library of Hawaii.

Oct. 18-19. At Brookings. Headquarters at the State College Library Building. South Dakota Library Association.

Oct. 18-20. At Des Moines. Iowa Library Association.

Oct. 26-28. At West Baden, Ind. Indiana Library Association.

Oct. 27-29. At Joliet. Illinois Library Association.

Nov. 4-5. At Huntington. West Virginia Library Association.

Nov. 8-10. At St. Paul. Minnesota Library Association.

Nov. 10-12. Arkansas Library Association. Place of meeting in a later number.

Opportunities

Experienced cataloger with library school training is available for engagement in September. G. L. 15.

Librarian would like position as assistant, extension work or children's work. Training and several years' experience. C. C. 15.

Classifier in university library, university graduate, man, with broad European education, thoro knowledge of French, German and Dutch, and reading knowledge of Spanish, and with experience in translation work and journalism, wishes position as classifier, bibliographer or editor of publications in scientific or university library. Good references. S. K. 15.

Wanted, assistant in business library. Library school graduate with some experience preferred. Give age, education, experience and salary expected. Apply Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

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The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for a head indexer.

Applications must be on file with the Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., not later than September 13.

The examination is to fill a vacancy in the Office of Information, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and vacancies occurring in positions requiring similar qualifications.

The entrance salary is $2,400 a year. A probationary period of six months is required; advancement after that depends upon individual efficiency, increased usefulness, and the occurrence of vacancies in higher positions.

The duties are to prepare and edit the detailed analytical index cards for all the Department of Agriculture publications, including periodicals.

Competitors will not be required to report for examination at any place, but will be rated on their education and experience, and samples of work to be filed with the application.

Full information may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the board of United States Civil service examiners at the post office or customhouse in any city.

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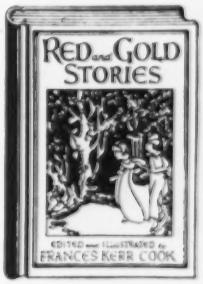

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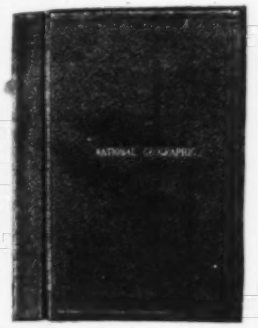

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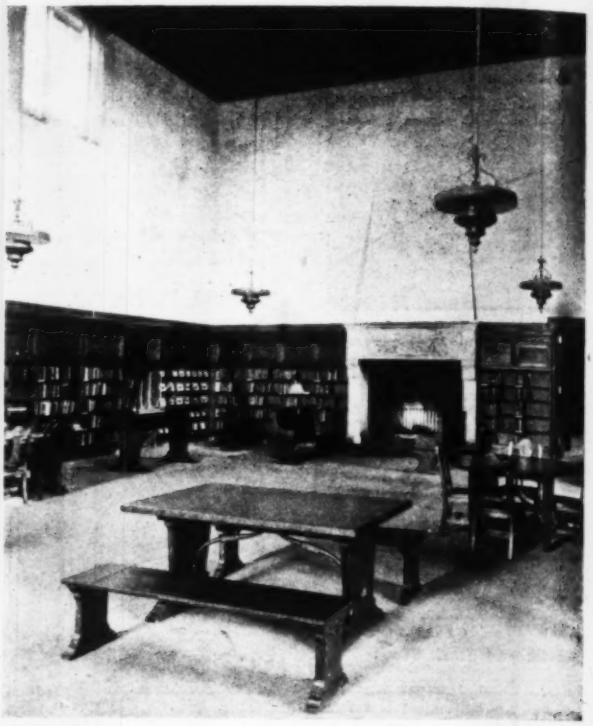

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